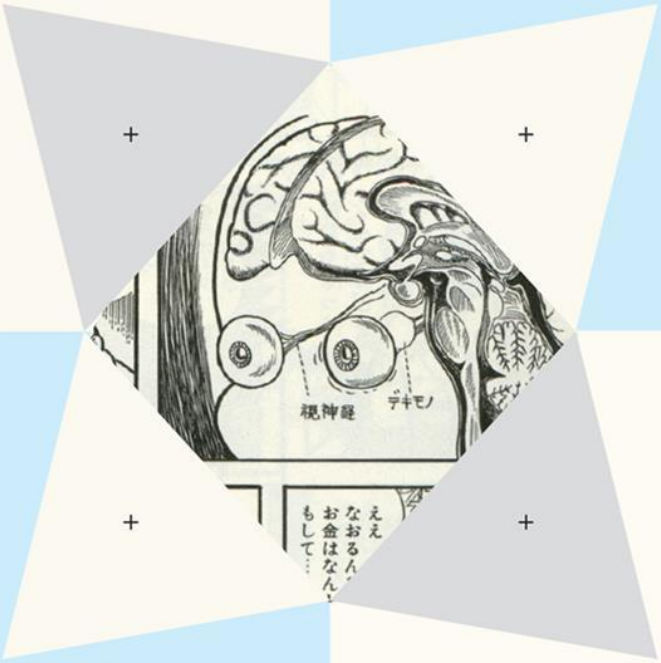
Black

Jack



Osamu

Tezuka

VOLUME NO. 16

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Jill Rittymanee

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Published by Vertical, Inc., New York.

Originally published in Japanese as *Burakku Jakku 16*
by Akita Shoten, Tokyo, 2001.
Burakku Jakku first serialized in *Shukan Shonen Champion*,
Akita Shoten, 1973-83.

e-ISBN: 978-1-941220-84-9

First Edition

Vertical, Inc.
451 Park Avenue South 7th Floor
New York, NY 10016

Black Jack

Volume 16

Osamu Tezuka

VERTICAL.

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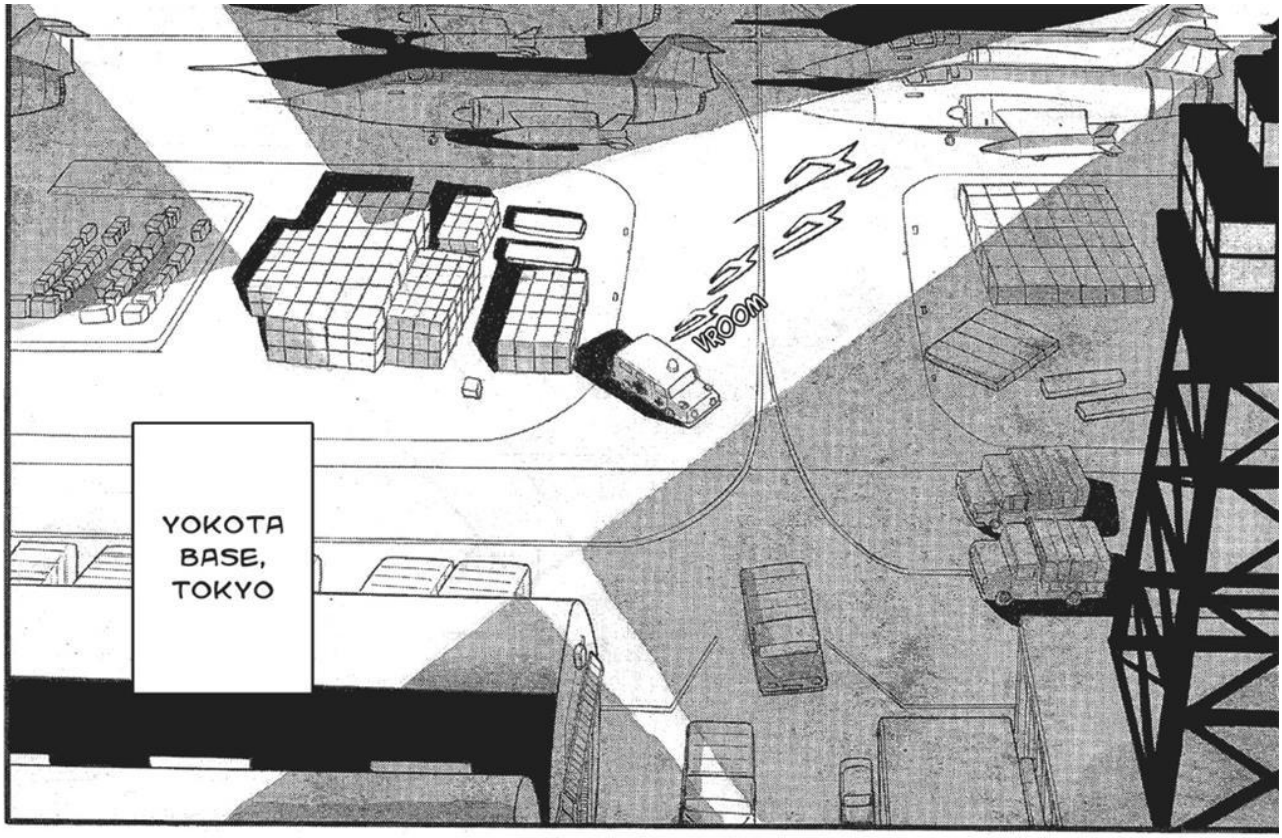
ANAPHYLAXIS


YOKOTA BASE, TOKYO
VROOM

COLONEL MASON ...
THIS IS DR. BLACK JACK.

KLOMP
KLOMP
KLOMP

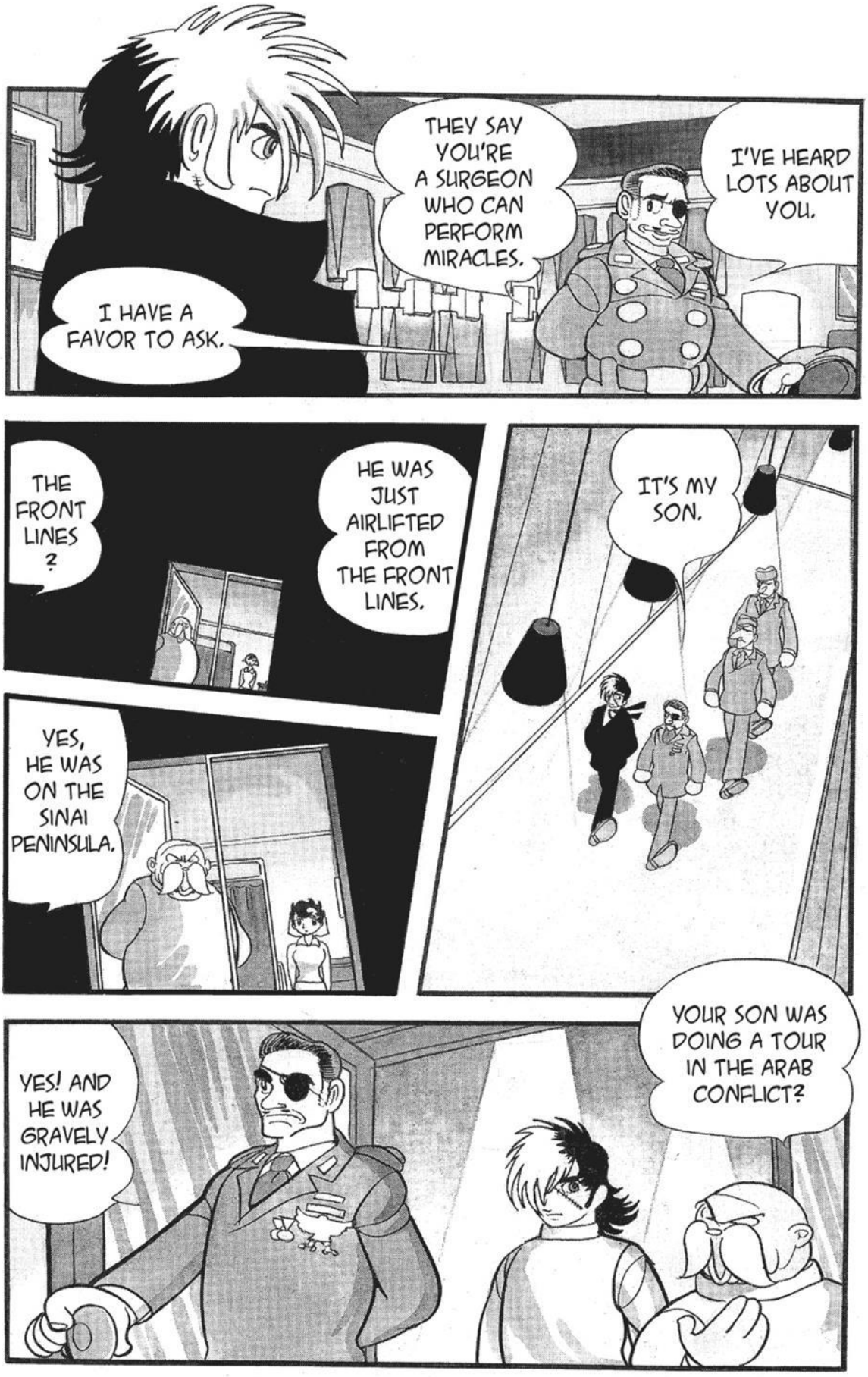

I'VE HEARD LOTS ABOUT YOU.
THEY SAY YOU'RE A SURGEON WHO CAN PERFORM MIRACLES.
I HAVE A FAVOR TO ASK.
HE WAS JUST AIRLIFTED FROM THE FRONT LINES.
THE FRONT LINES ?
IT'S MY SON.
YES, HE WAS ON THE SINAI PENINSULA.
YOUR SON WAS DOING A TOUR IN THE ARAB CONFLICT?
YES! AND HE WAS GRAVELY INJURED!

CHART ...
SHARD IN CORO-NARY ARTERY. HMM.
BULLET IN LEFT CHEST.
HERE'S THE X-RAY.
HE HAS ANAPHYLAXIS!
WHY WASN'T IT REMOVED RIGHT AWAY? HE COULD HAVE BEEN TREATED AT A LOCAL HOSPITAL. WHY FLY HIM ALL THE WAY TO JAPAN?
SEE? THERE'S A PIECE OF A BULLET IN THE WALL OF HIS HEART, RIGHT NEAR THE CORONARY.

SO WE CAN'T OPERATE!
HE HAS A REACTION TO EVERY ANESTHETIC THERE IS. HIS BODY REJECTS IT AND GOES INTO INTENSE SPASMS.

HE MIGHT DIE FROM SHOCK.
ANAPHYLAXIS, EH?

IF WE FORCED AN ANESTHETIC ON HIM,

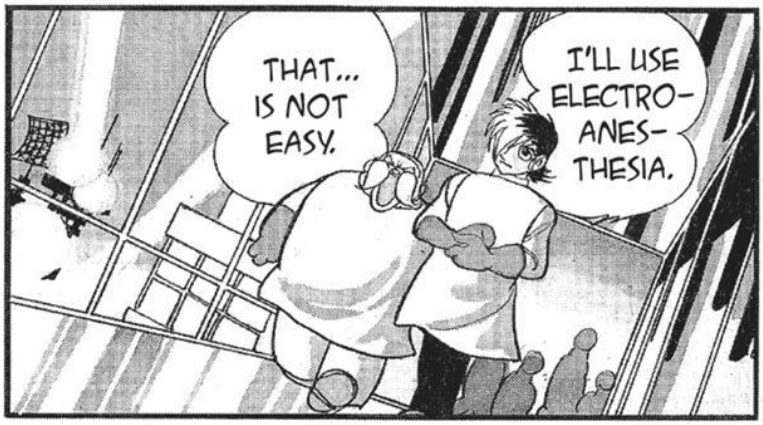
GRASPING AT STRAWS? HEH HEH.
YOU'RE THE ONLY ONE WHO CAN SAVE MY SON!

TAKE IT OR LEAVE IT.
TEN MILLION YEN? YOU'RE TAKING ADVAN-TAGE!

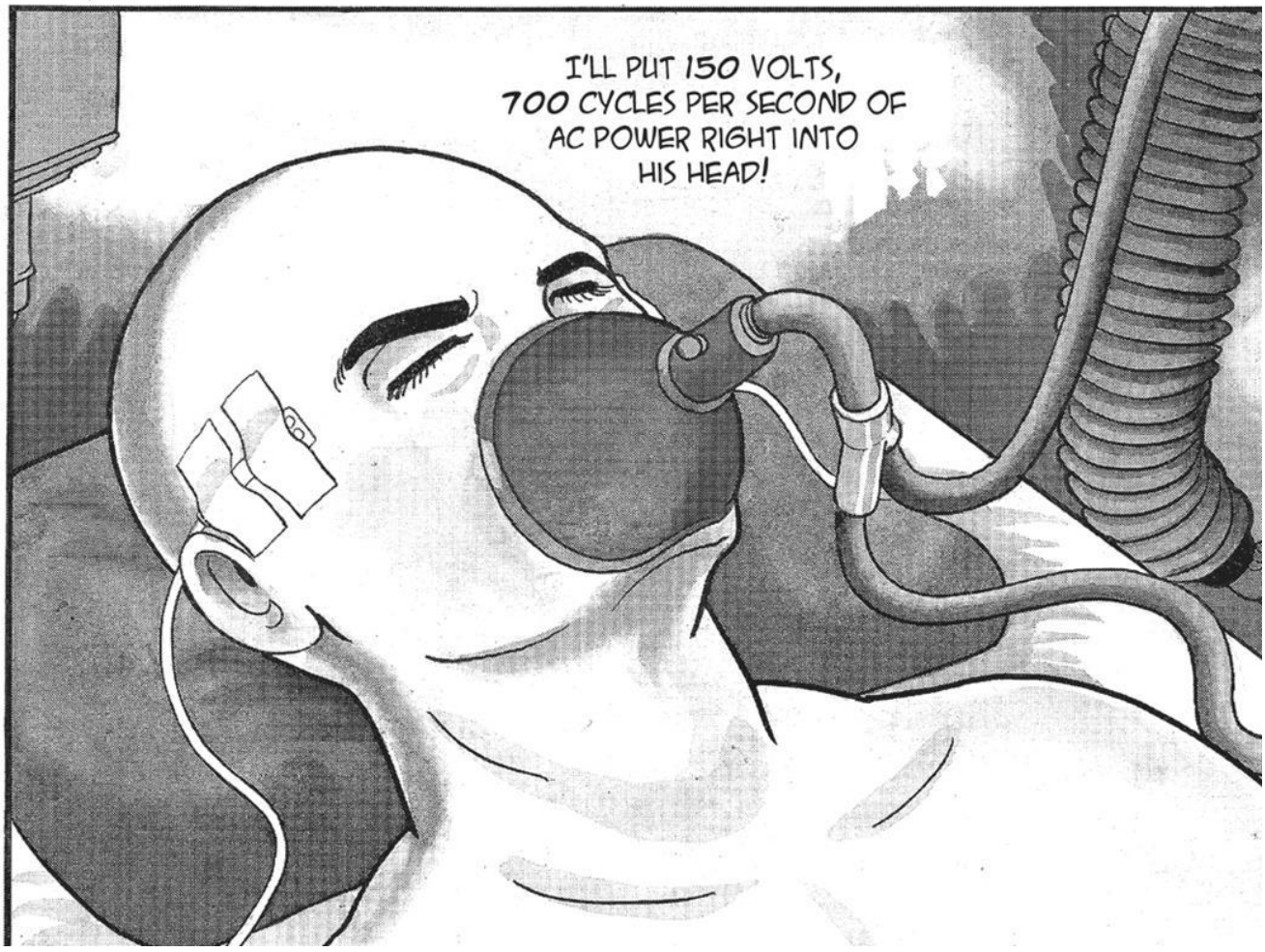
TEN MILLION YEN, IN CASH.
TELL ME... HOW MUCH?

DON'T LAUGH! THIS IS SERIOUS!

IF I FAIL, I'LL GLADLY LET YOU KILL ME WITH YOUR OWN HANDS.
THIS IS A DANGEROUS OPERATION. DON'T YOU MILITARY MEN GO ON SUICIDE MISSIONS IN ENEMY TERRITORY? I'M STAKING MY LIFE, TOO.


THAT... IS NOT EASY.
I'LL USE ELECTRO-ANES-THESIA.

FINE. JUST DO IT.


I'LL PUT 150 VOLTS, 700 CYCLES PER SECOND OF AC POWER RIGHT INTO HIS HEAD!

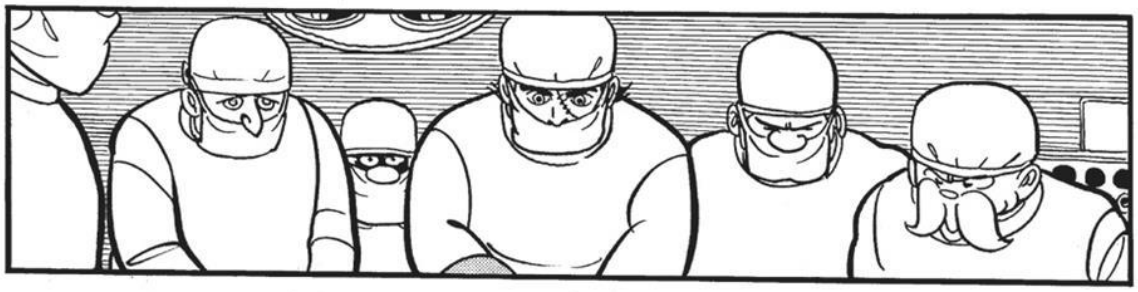
IT WON'T WORK!

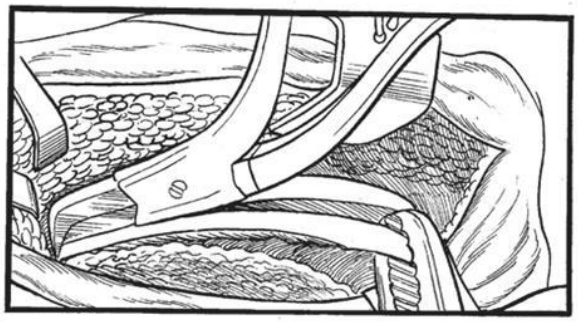
130 AM-PERES.
WHAT AM-PERE?

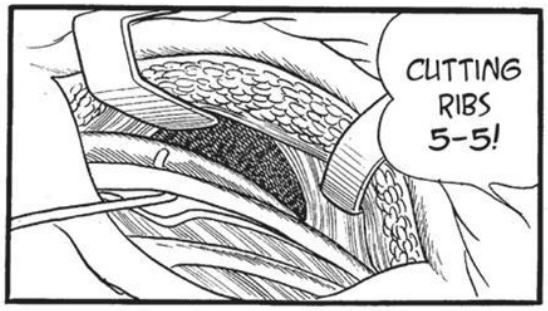
OPENING THE STERNUM. ONCE THE HEART IS EXPOSED, WE'LL STOP IT AND REMOVE THE BULLET SHARD.

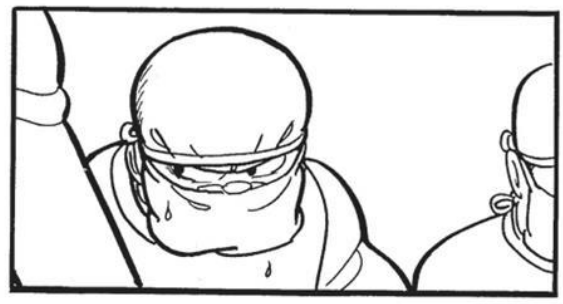
HIT IT.

JOLT

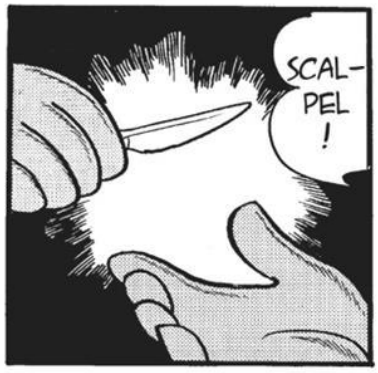





CUTTING RIBS 5-5!



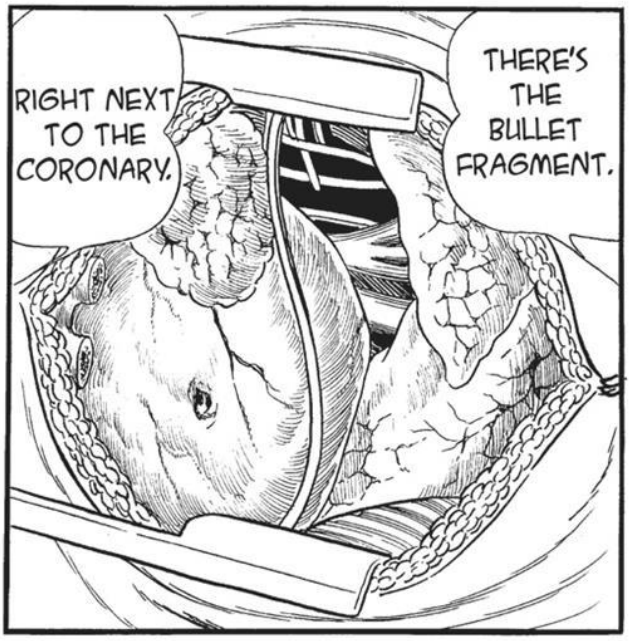
NO. 2 FOR-CEPS!


SCAL-PEL!

PERI-CAR-DIUM.

THE CORONARY ARTERY WRAPS AROUND THE HEART.

IT'S A MAJOR VESSEL THAT CARRIES NUTRIENTS TO THE HEART. IF IT TEARS,


RIGHT NEXT TO THE CORONARY.
THERE'S THE BULLET FRAGMENT.

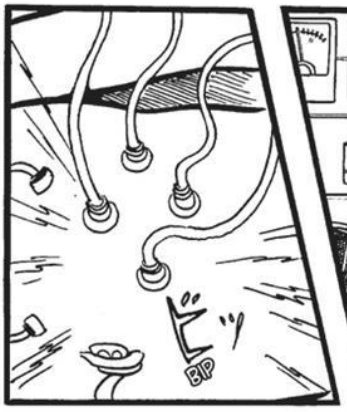
THE ISSUE IS WHETHER OR NOT GEORGE CAN FIGHT AGAIN.

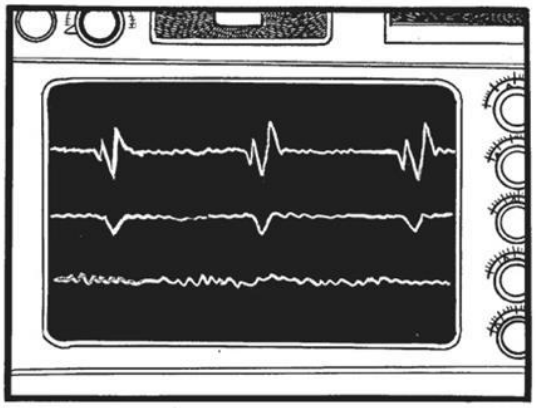
STOP TALK-ING.
THE HEART WILL DIE.

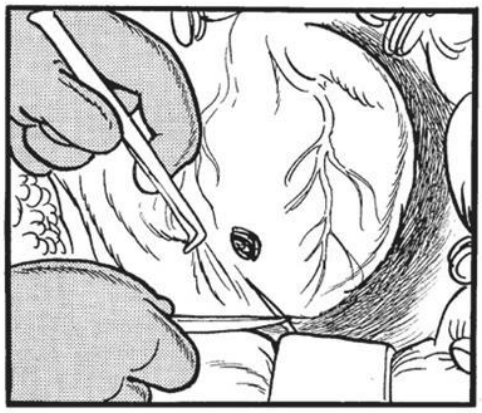
GO.
I JUST NEED THIRTY SECS.

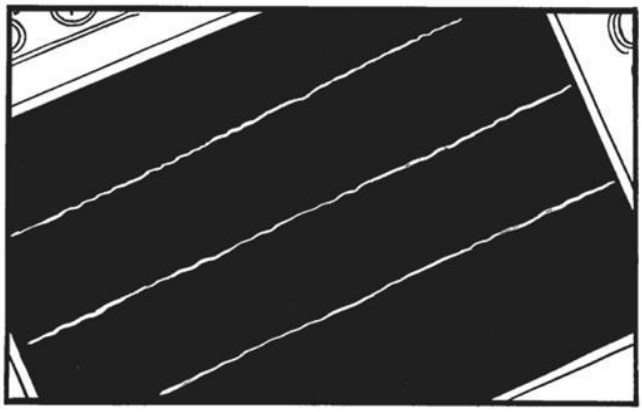
ONE MINUTE IS THE MAX!

STOP THE HEART FOR ONE MINUTE.

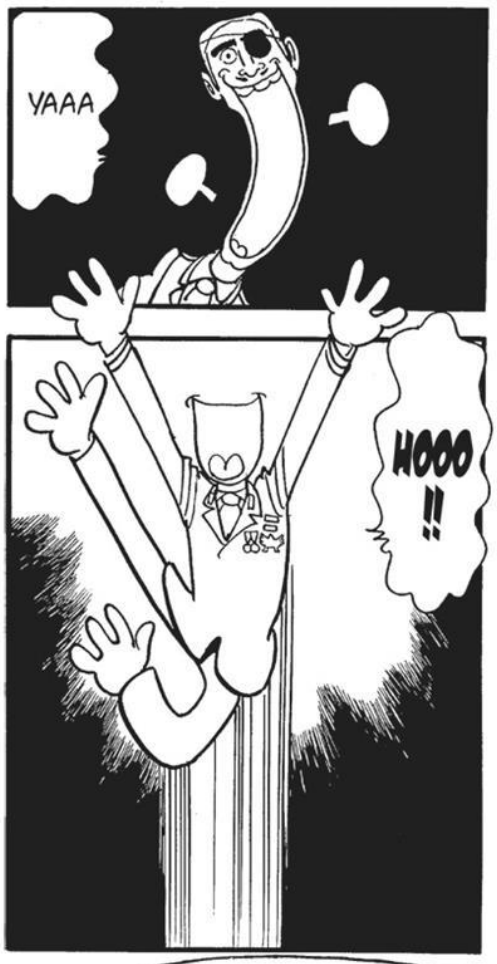

BIP







FIFTEEN SECS.
TWENTY MORE SECONDS.
IF I SO MUCH AS FLINCH, HE'LL HEMOR-RHAGE.
コロン
TMP
ニカナ
KLINK
STITCH HIM UP.
GAUZE ...
IS IT OVER ?


YAAA
HOOO !!

I GUESS SO.
DOCTOR, COULD YOU SAVE HIM?

BRAVO
'RAY!!

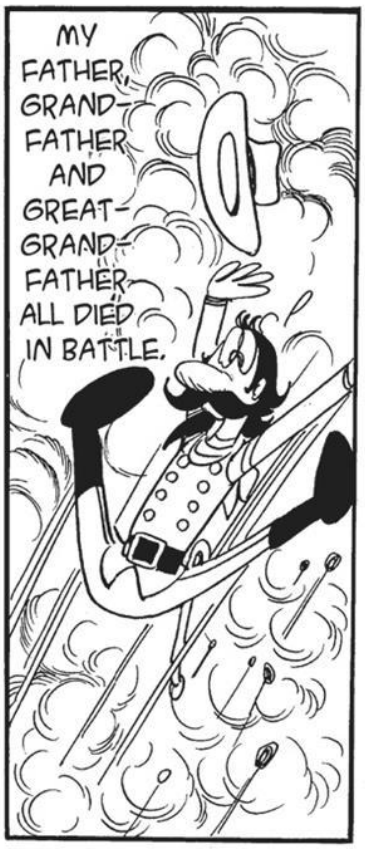
I'VE BEEN IN THE MILITARY FOR 30 YEARS. I WISH WE HAD A DOCTOR LIKE YOU IN THE FIELD.

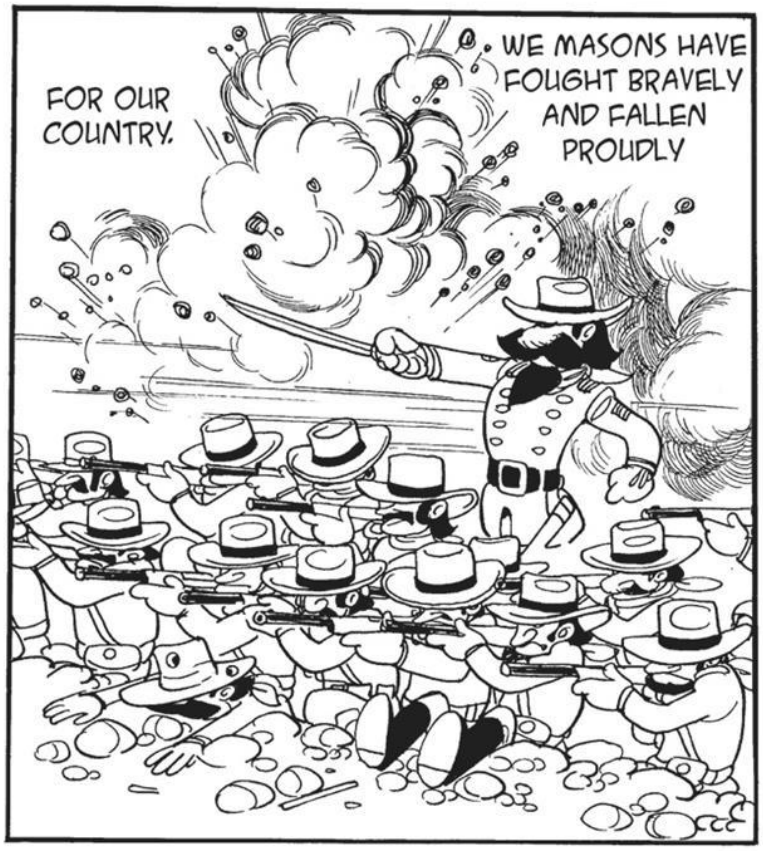
DR. BLACK JACK, YOU'RE EVEN BETTER THAN THEY SAY.
IN A YEAR, HE'LL BE ABLE TO CLIMB MT. EVEREST.

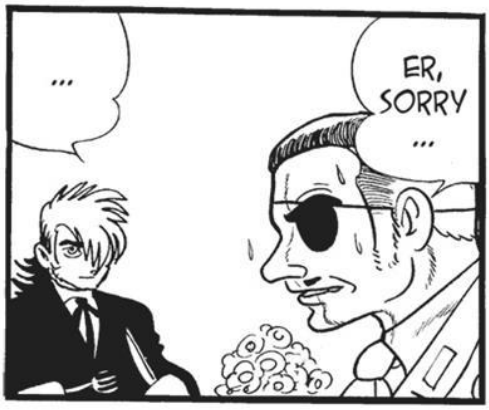
WE'RE A MILITARY FAMILY.

I PLAN ON IT.

SO WILL YOUR SON FIGHT ONCE HE'S HEALED?


MY FATHER, GRAND-FATHER AND GREAT-GRAND-FATHER ALL DIED IN BATTLE.


FOR OUR COUNTRY.
WE MASONS HAVE FOUGHT BRAVELY AND FALLEN PROUDLY

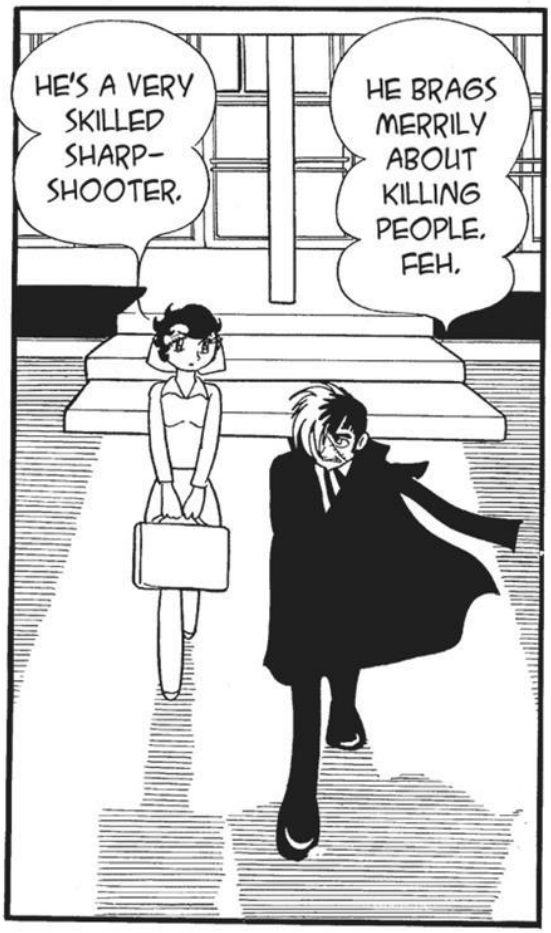

...
ER, SORRY ...

I KILLED 87 JAPS IN THE PACIFIC...
I KILLED 200 MEN IN VIETNAM AND 35 IN THE ARAB CONFLICT.

AND THERE ARE PEOPLE LIKE YOU WHO RISK THEIR LIVES SAVING OTHERS.

ME? I DON'T CARE ABOUT SAVING ANYONE.

I JUST CARE ABOUT THE CASH.

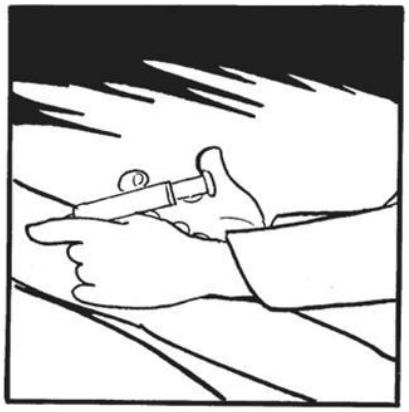

HE'S A VERY SKILLED SHARP-SHOOTER.
HE BRAGS MERRILY ABOUT KILLING PEOPLE. FEH.

WILL I HEAL ?

SHH, DON'T TALK YET.

UM...

WHAT HAPPENS ONCE I DO?

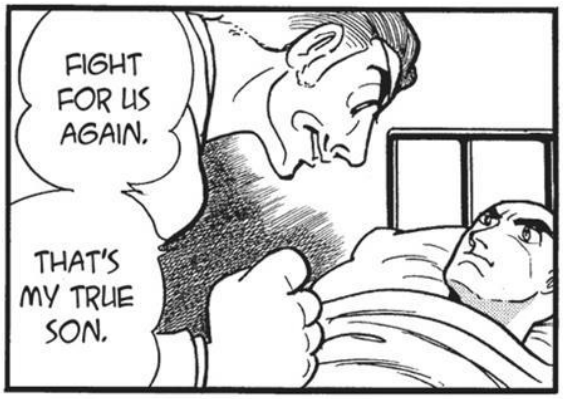


YES...

GET WELL SOON AND...
GET WELL SOON, GEORGE.

PAPA.

...

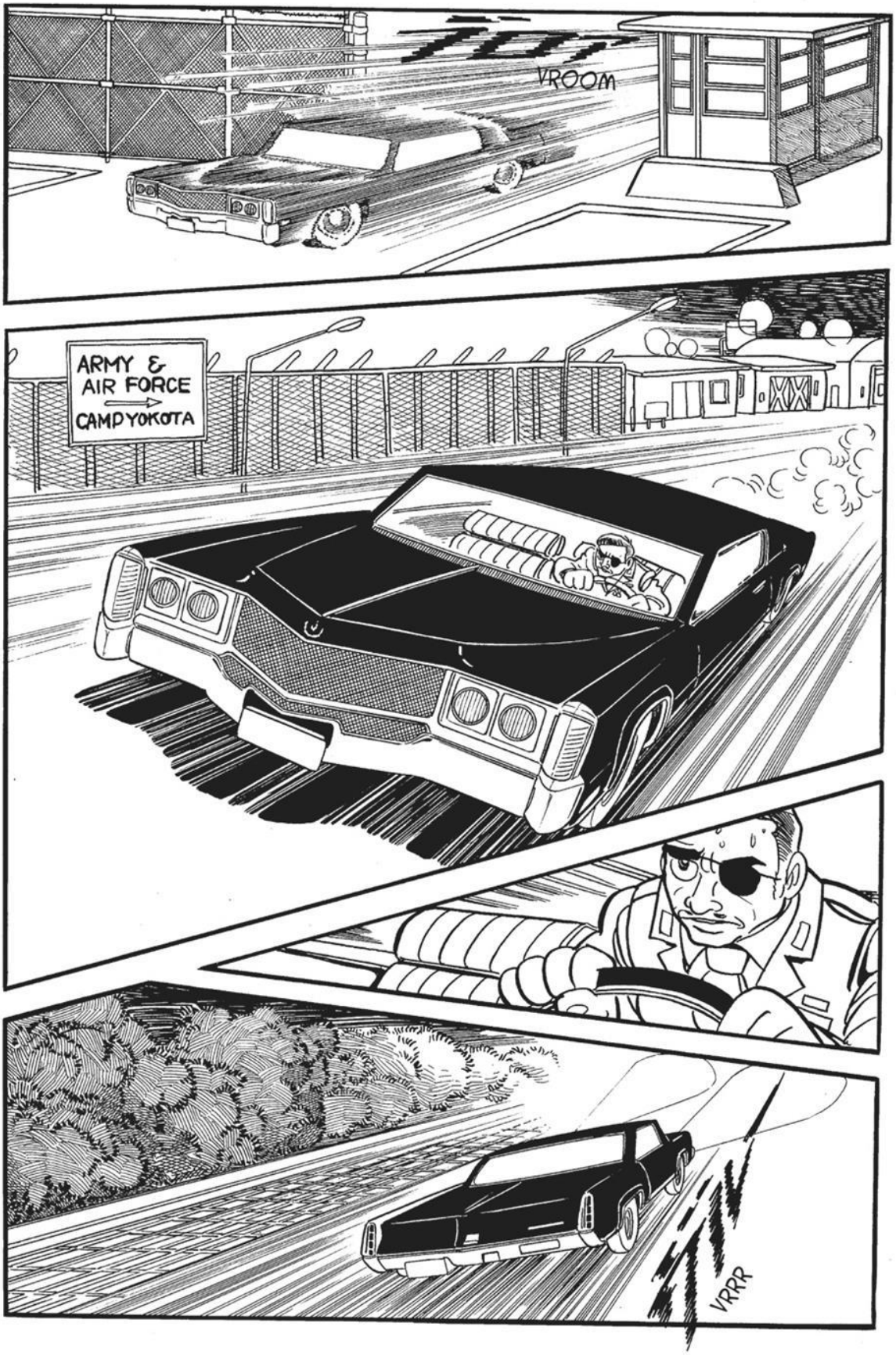

FIGHT FOR US AGAIN.
THAT'S MY TRUE SON.

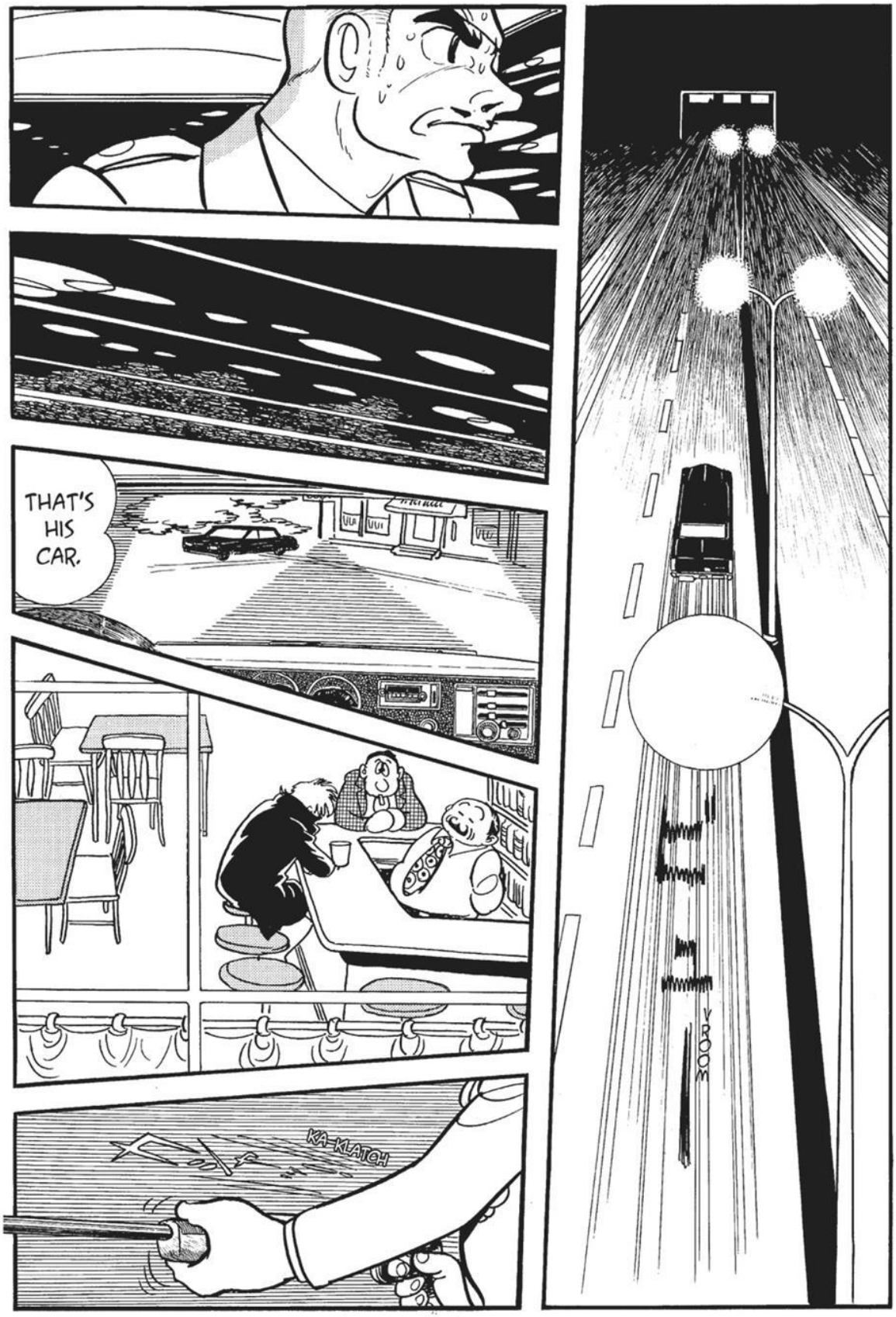
TROMP POMP POMP TROMP TROMPA...
KRASH
HAS SUDDEN-LY PASSED AWAY!
COLO-NEL! YOUR SON

GEORGE!
...
GEORGE... GEORGE! OPEN YOUR EYES!
WHEN I CAME IN, HE WAS HAVING SPASMS.
HE PASSED SOON AFTER.
IT WAS CLEARLY ANAPHY-LAXIS.
GEORGE, SAY SOMETHING... YOU WERE DOING JUST FINE ...
HOW CAN I COM-FORT YOU...

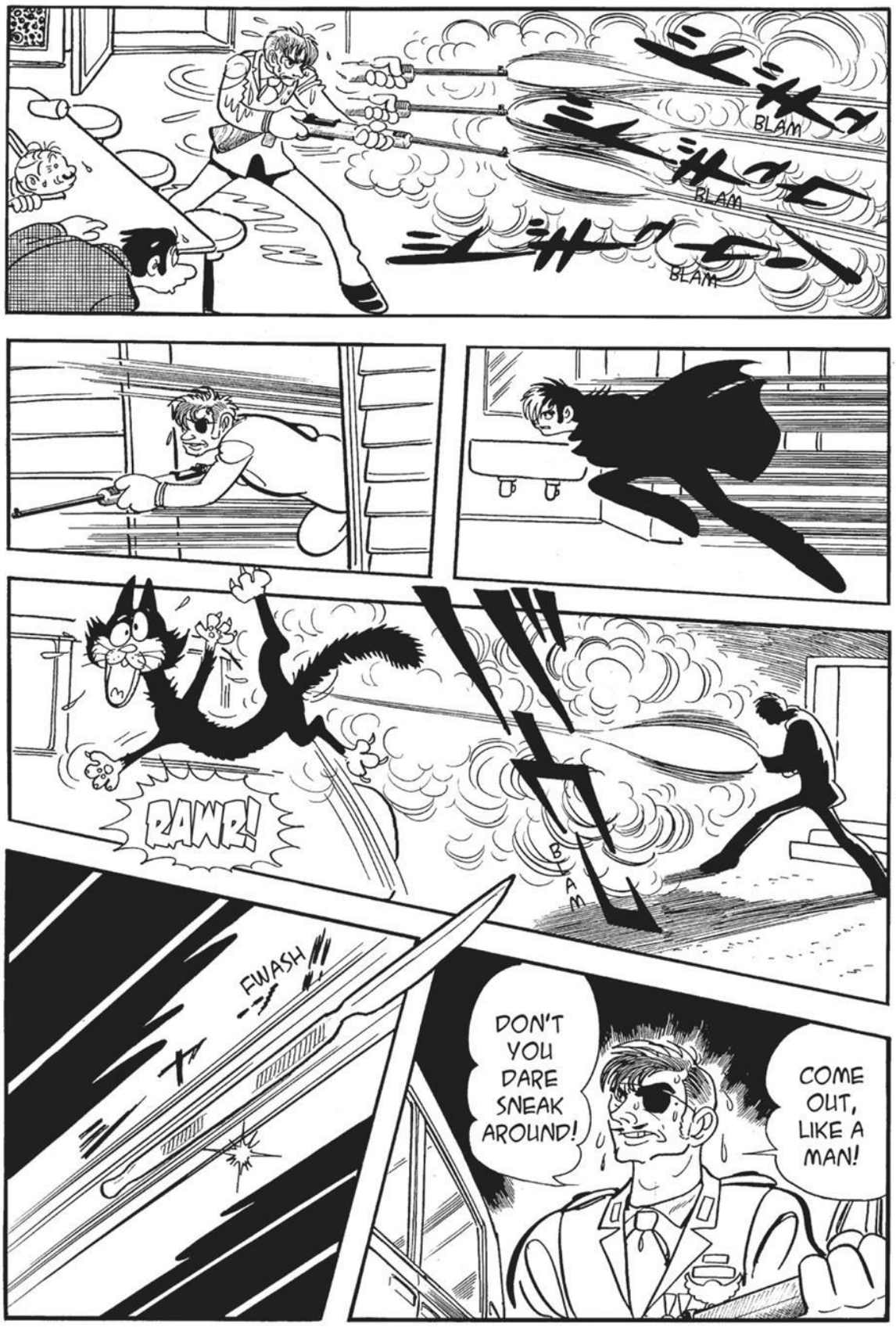
NO, NO! YOU CAN'T DO SUCH A THING!
COLONEL! STOP! YOU'RE GOING TO SHOOT HIM?
OUTTA MY WAY!
MARK MY WORDS, I'LL AVENGE YOU, GEORGE!
COLONEL!
DAMN YOU, BLACK JACK!
THAT DAMN JAP QUACK!

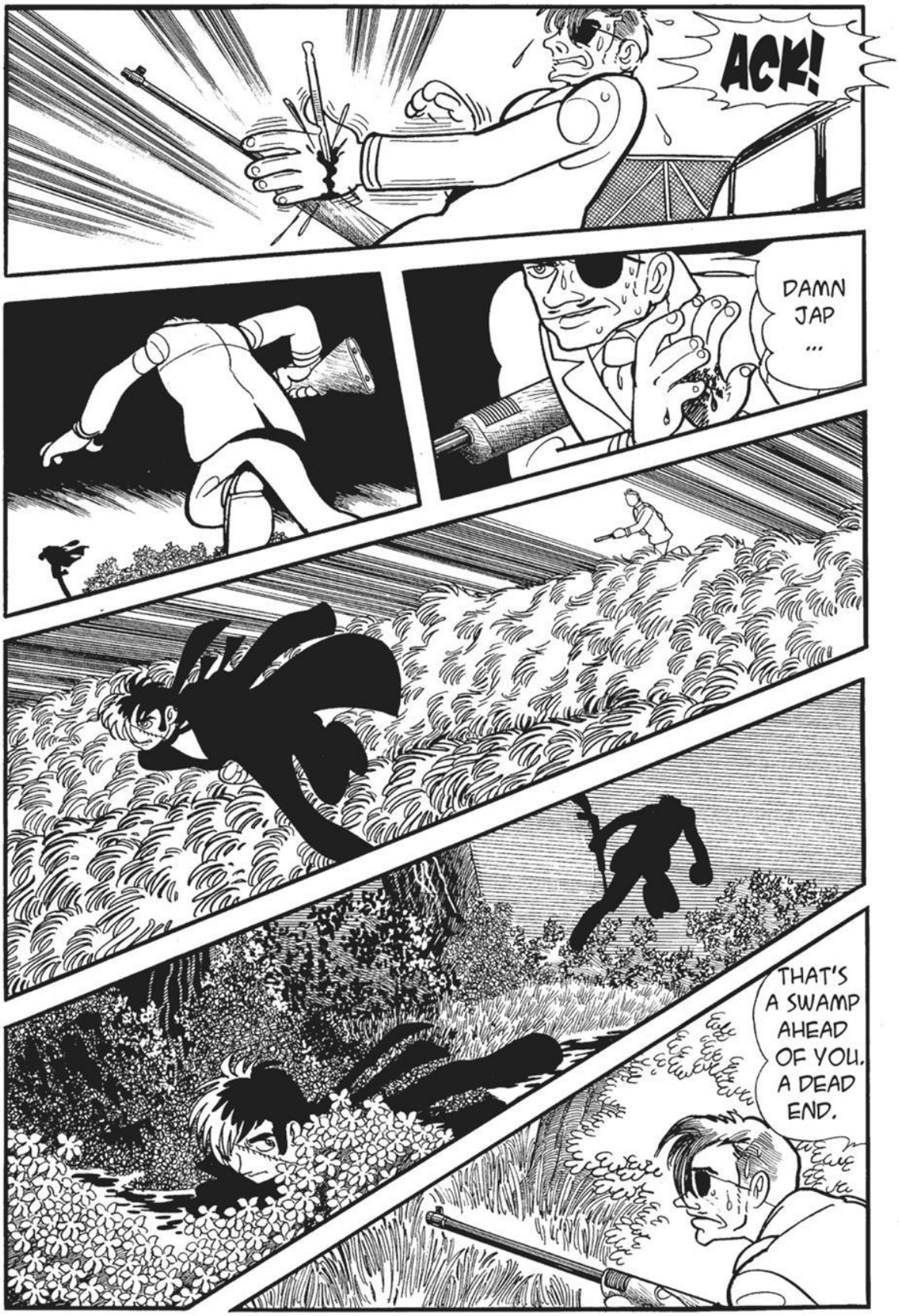
BUT I WON'T LET YOU.
YOU'RE JAPANESE SO YOU'LL COVER FOR YOUR KIND.
PLEASE LISTEN TO ME!
IT'S NOT HIS FAULT!
NO!!
I'LL SHOW HIM THE RAGE OF A FATHER WHOSE SON HAS BEEN KILLED.
THIS HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH THE ARMY.
HE CAN'T HAVE GONE FAR.
SHUT UP!!
YOUR SON DIDN'T DIE BECAUSE OF THE SURGERY.
PLEASE RECONSIDER, COLONEL!
HEAR ME OUT!

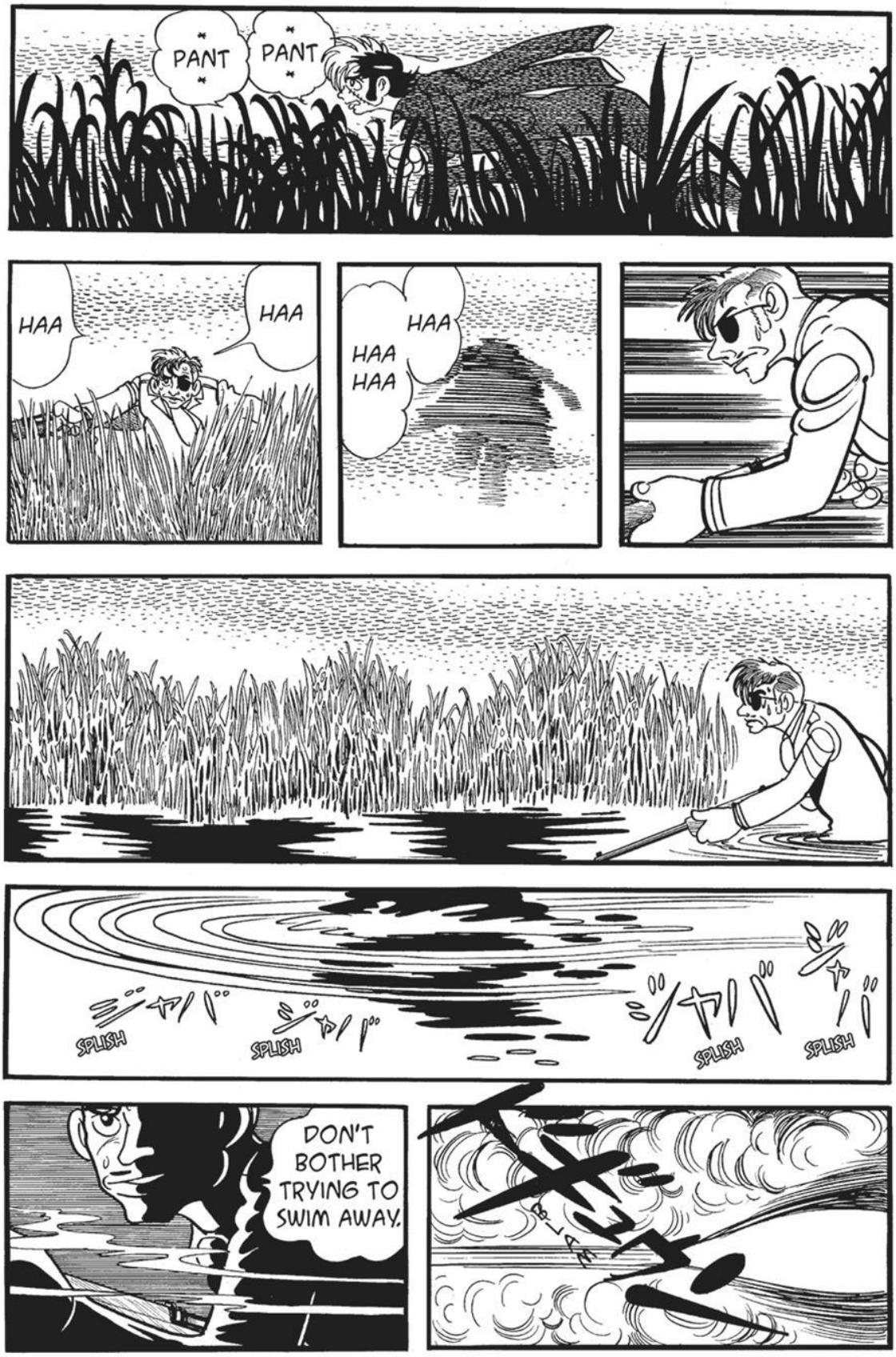

VROOM
ARMY &
AIR FORCE
CAMP YOKOTA
VRRR

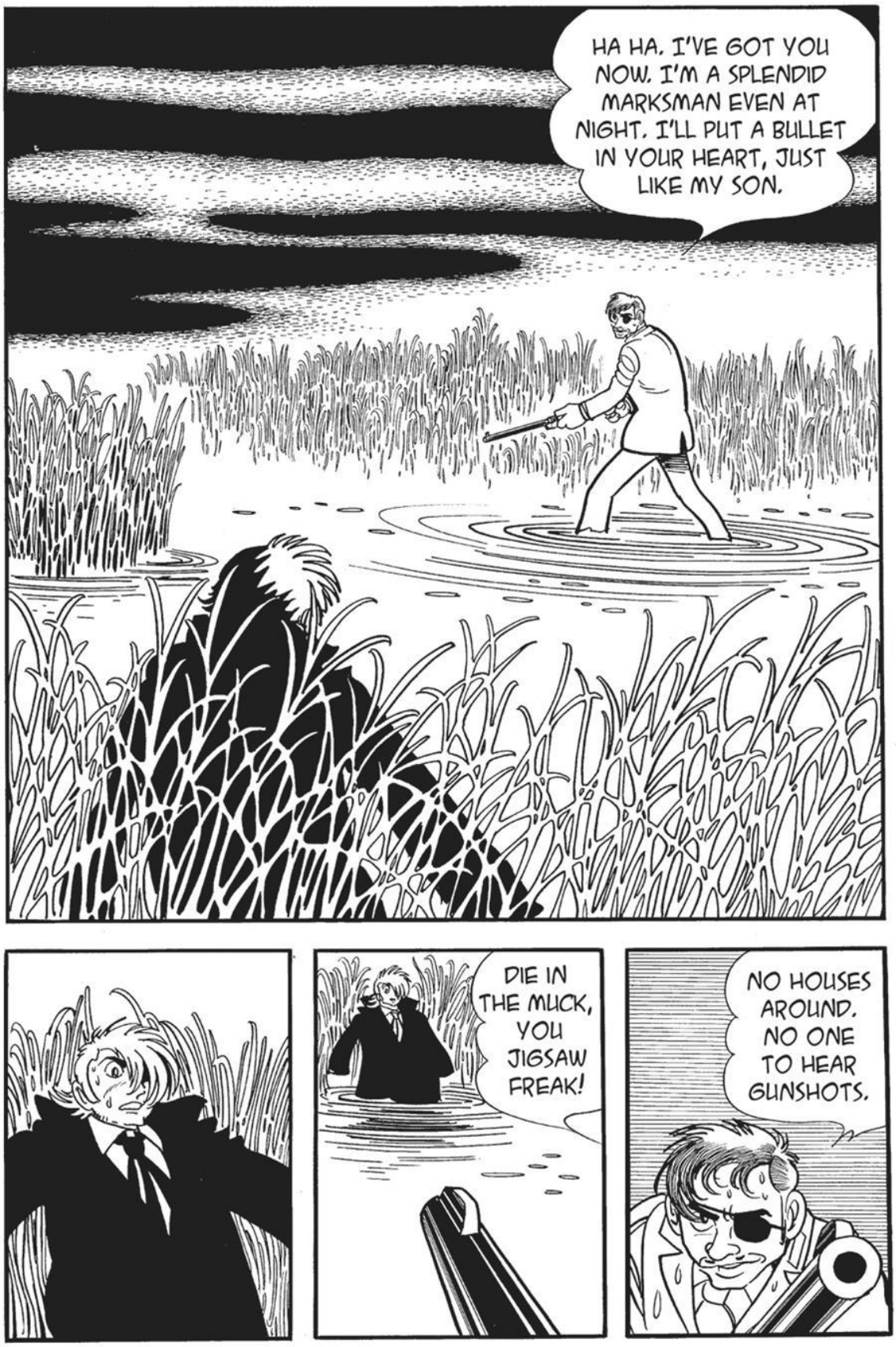

THAT'S HIS CAR.
KA-KLATCH
VROOM

HE HAD SPASMS. YOU KILLED HIM!
GEORGE IS DEAD.
BAM
EAT MY LEAD!
NOW IT'S YOUR TURN TO DIE.
YOU KILLER QUACK!
ARGH!


BLAM
BLAM
BLAM
RAWR!
BLAM
FWASH
DON'T YOU DARE SNEAK AROUND!
COME OUT, LIKE A MAN!


ACK!
DAMN JAP ...
THAT'S A SWAMP AHEAD OF YOU. A DEAD END.


PANT
PANT
HAA
HAA
HAA
HAA
HAA
SPLISH
SPLISH
SPLISH
SPLISH
DON'T BOTHER TRYING TO SWIM AWAY.


HA HA. I'VE GOT YOU NOW. I'M A SPLENDID MARKSMAN EVEN AT NIGHT. I'LL PUT A BULLET IN YOUR HEART, JUST LIKE MY SON.
DIE IN THE MUCK, YOU JIGSAW FREAK!
NO HOUSES AROUND. NO ONE TO HEAR GUNSHOTS.

BLAM.
THIS WAS ALL I COULD DO.
I TRIED TO STOP YOU, BUT
I-I PURSUED YOU ...
YOU!

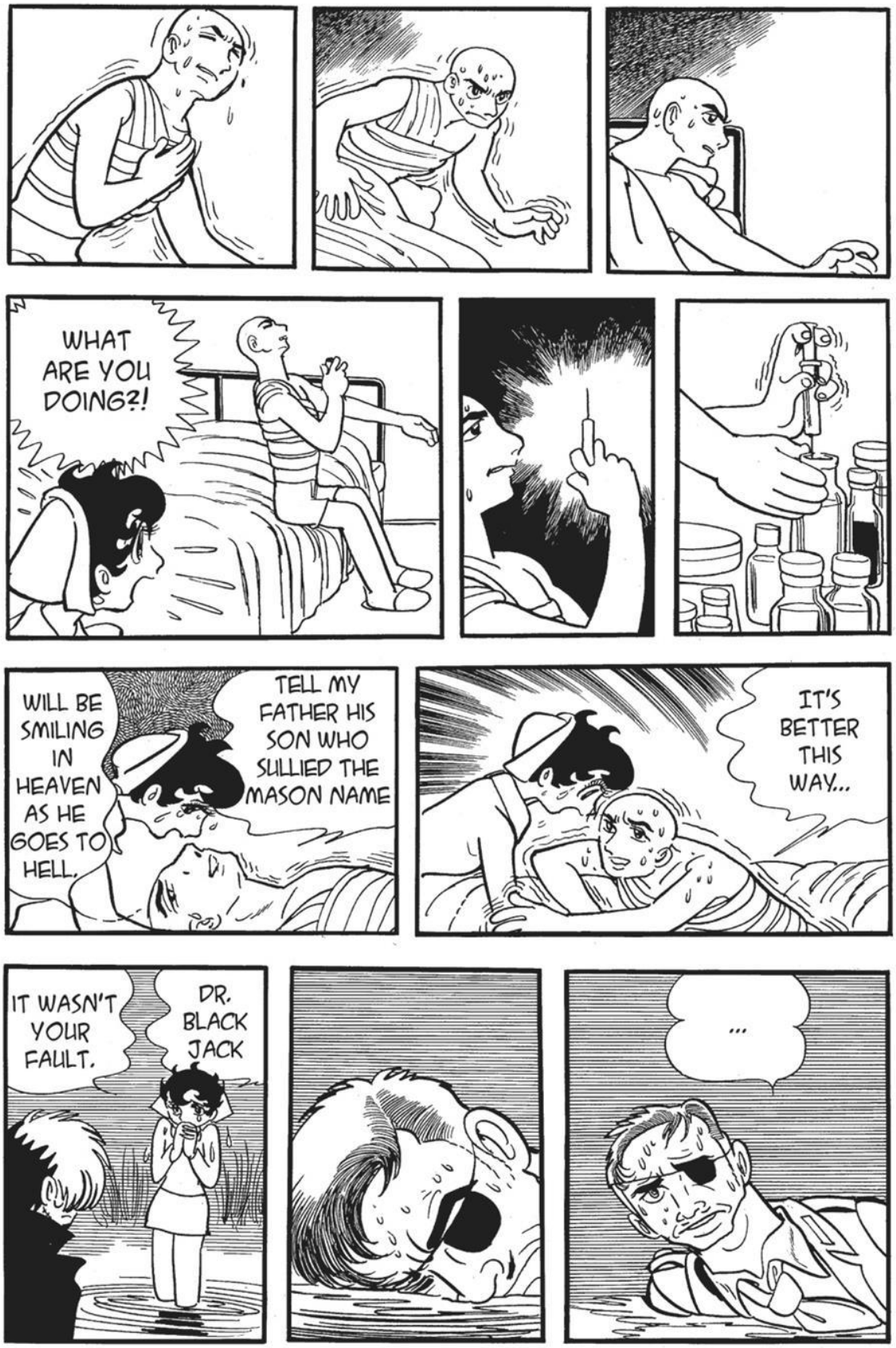
COLONEL, PLEASE LISTEN. GEORGE KILLED HIMSELF. HE INJECTED HIMSELF WITH ANESTHETIC.
Y-YOU...
LINKK

TO BE SENT TO THE FRONT LINES AND KILLED!
WHY DO YOU THINK I WAS SAVED?!

I HATE WAR!

I DON'T WANT TO GO BACK!
WHY SAVE ME WHEN I HAVE TO BE KILLED ANYWAY?

NO! LIE DOWN!
PLEASE, GIVE ME SOME POISON! LET ME DIE!
IF LIVING MEANS GOING BACK TO BATTLE, I'D RATHER DIE!

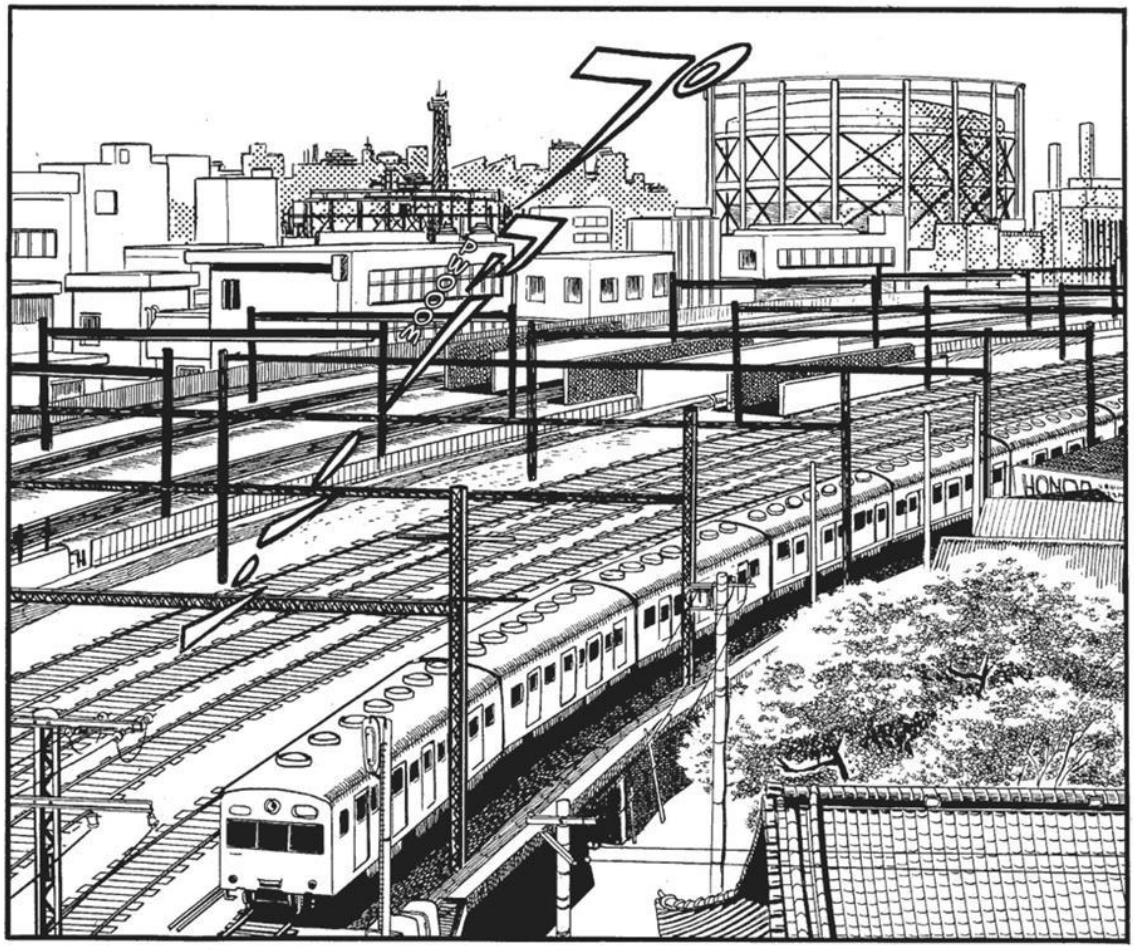

WHAT ARE YOU DOING?!
WILL BE SMILING IN HEAVEN AS HE GOES TO HELL.
TELL MY FATHER HIS SON WHO SULLIED THE MASON NAME
IT'S BETTER THIS WAY...
IT WASN'T YOUR FAULT.
DR. BLACK JACK
...

I DON'T KNOW.

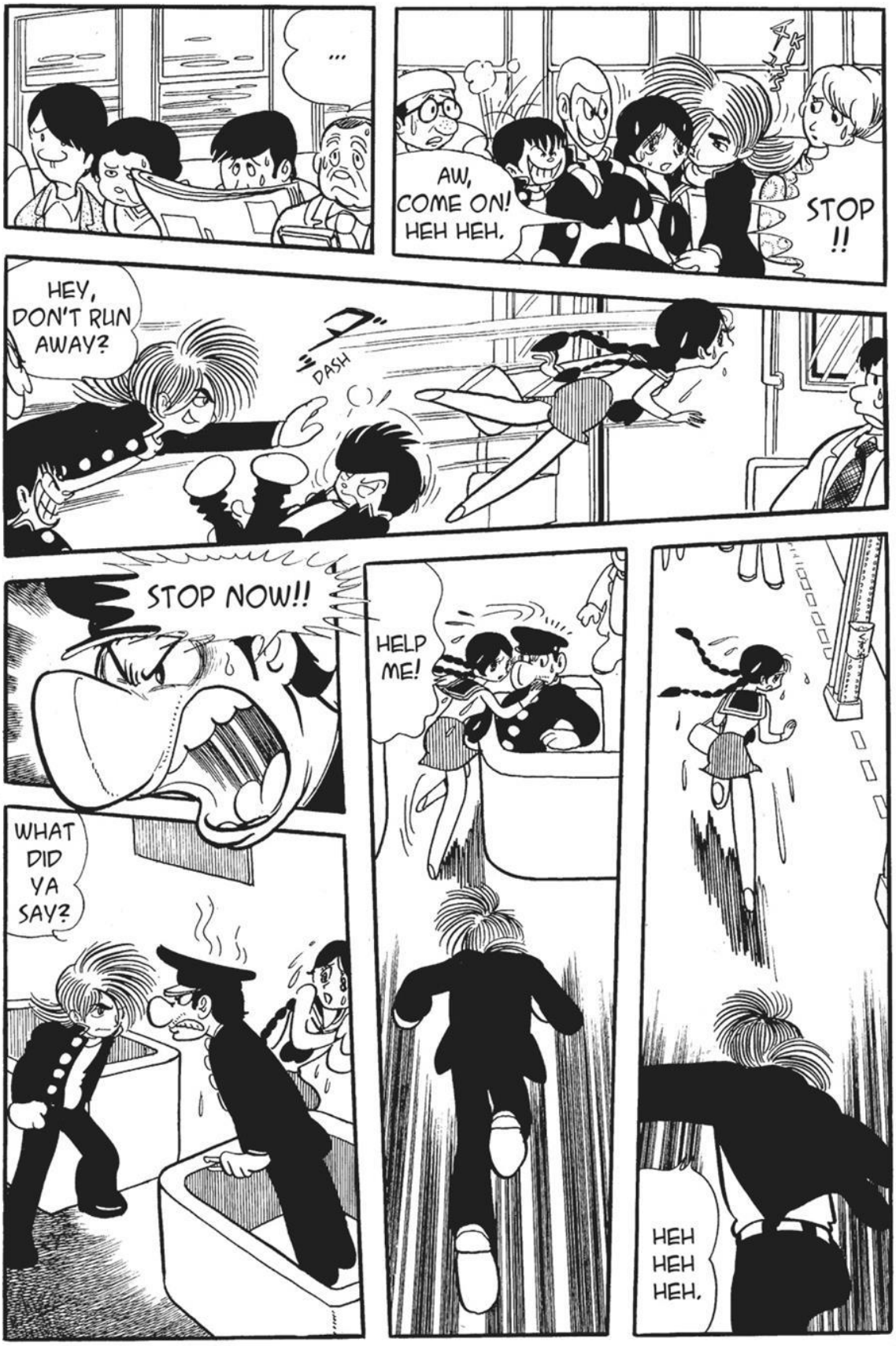
CAN WE SAVE HIM?

BUT FOR ANOTHER TEN MILLION I CAN CURE HIS BODY.

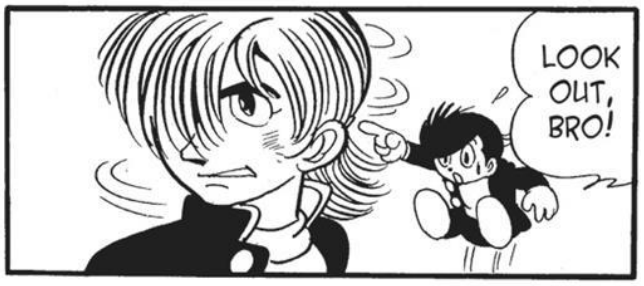
MIYUKI AND BEN

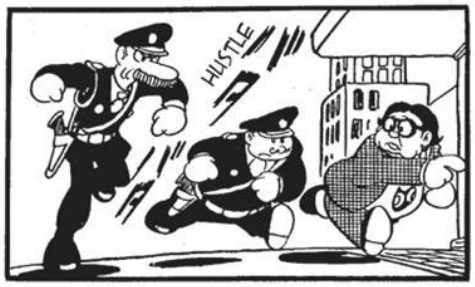


HEH HEH...
HEY, WANNA CATCH A FLICK? I GOT SEATS AT YURAKUZA.
I'LL HOLD YOU TIGHT IN THE THEATER, LIKE THIS.
DON'T BE COLD.
ゴトゴトゴトゴトゴトゴト
KTUN KTUN KTUN


...
AW, COME ON! HEH HEH.
STOP !!
HEY, DON'T RUN AWAY?
DASH
STOP NOW!!
WHAT DID YA SAY?
HELP ME!
HEH HEH HEH.

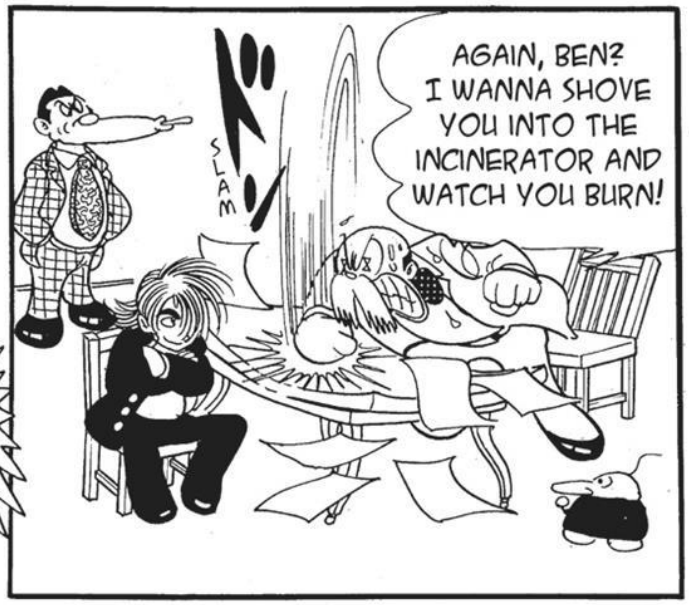
SLAP
WHACK

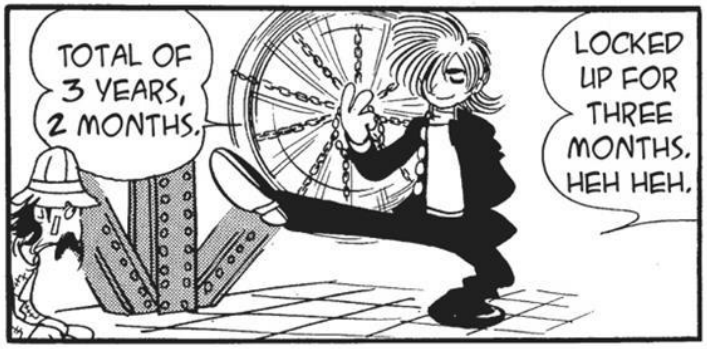

LOOK OUT, BRO!


HUSTLE

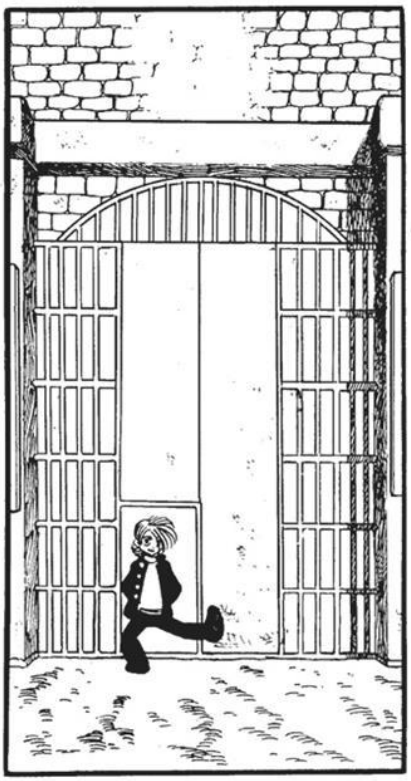
I BLAME THE GOVERN-MENT.

SHUT IT!


SLAM
AGAIN, BEN? I WANNA SHOVE YOU INTO THE INCINERATOR AND WATCH YOU BURN!


TOTAL OF 3 YEARS, 2 MONTHS.
LOCKED UP FOR THREE MONTHS. HEH HEH.

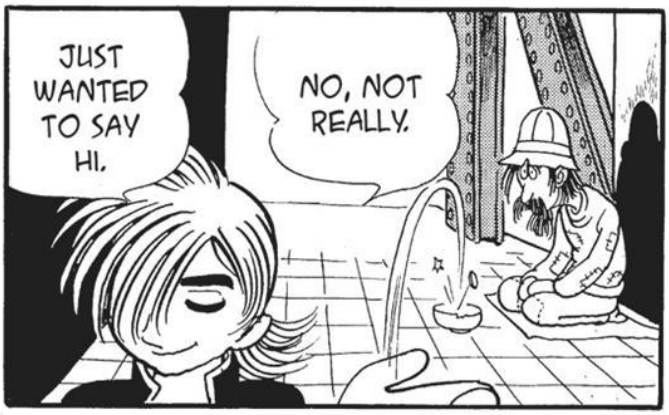
BACK HERE AGAIN? YOU'RE INCORRIGIBLE.
WHY DON'T YA FIND A NEW HAUNT?

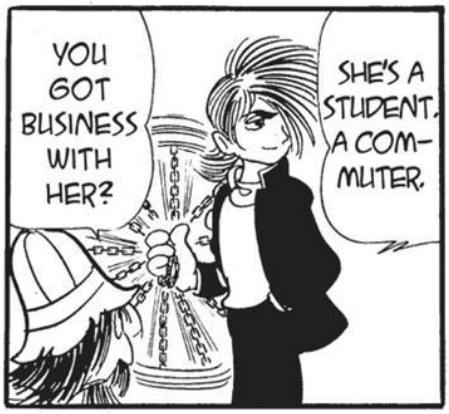


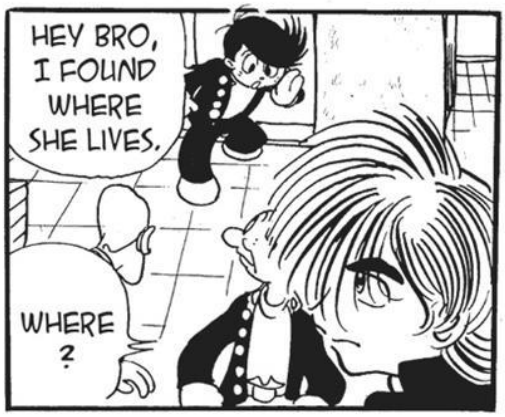
UHH, NO...

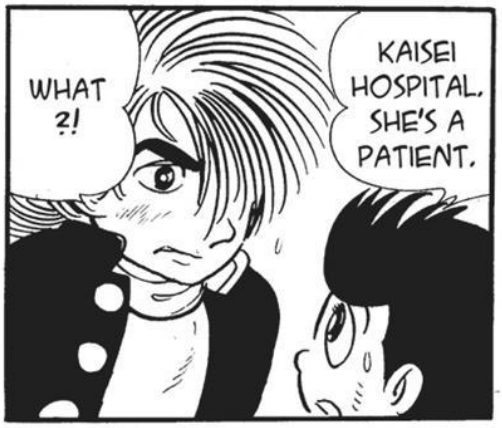
EVER SEEN HER SINCE ?
I KNOW YOU SAW THAT SKIRT.

LISTEN, OLD MAN.

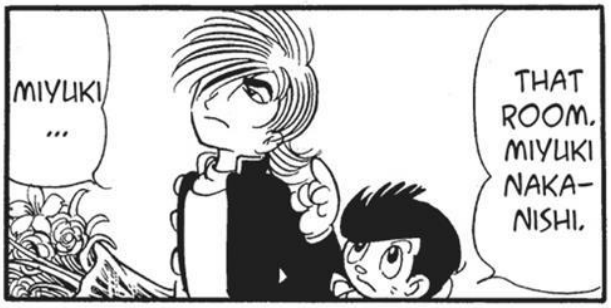

JUST WANTED TO SAY HI.
NO, NOT REALLY.

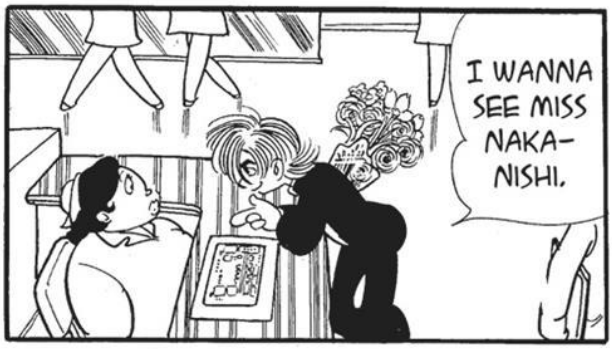

YOU GOT BUSINESS WITH HER?
SHE'S A STUDENT, A COM-MUTER.


HEY BRO, I FOUND WHERE SHE LIVES.
WHERE ?


WHAT ?!
KAISEI HOSPITAL. SHE'S A PATIENT.

EVEN!
ODD!

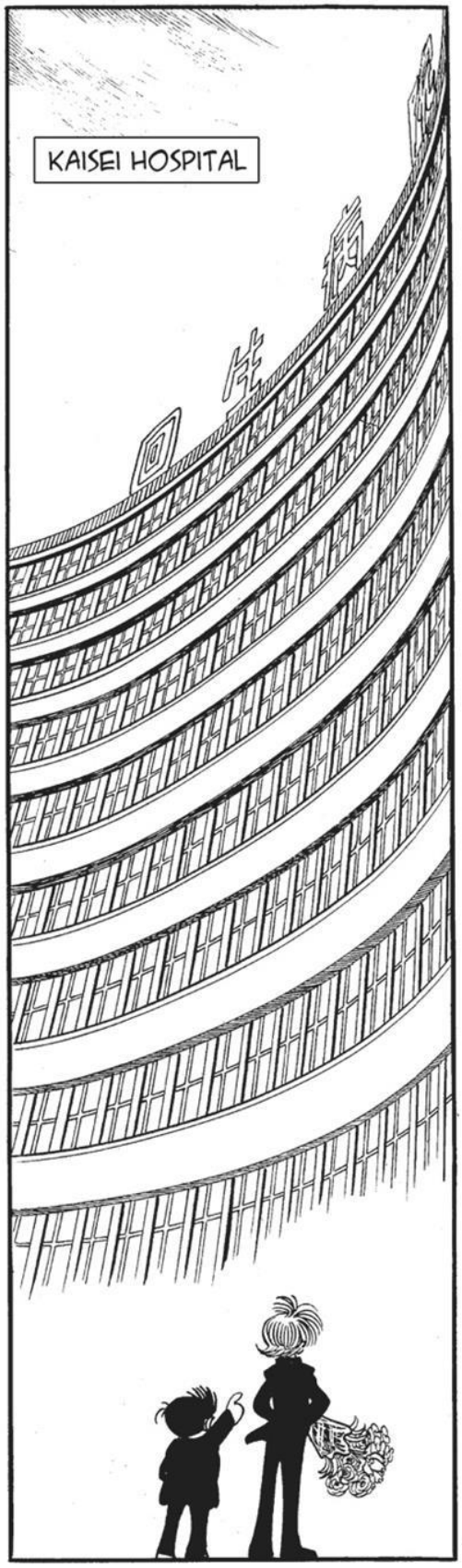

MIYUKI ...
THAT ROOM. MIYUKI NAKA-NISHI.


I WANNA SEE MISS NAKA-NISHI.

WHY NOT?
YOU CAN'T.

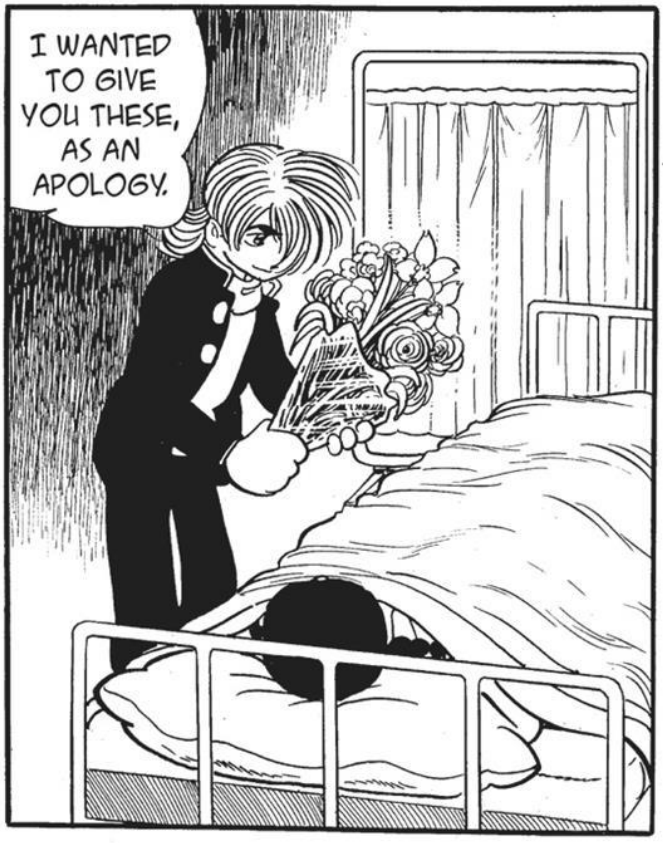
SHE'S THAT ILL?
VISITORS ARE PROHIBITED AS SHE'S VERY ILL.

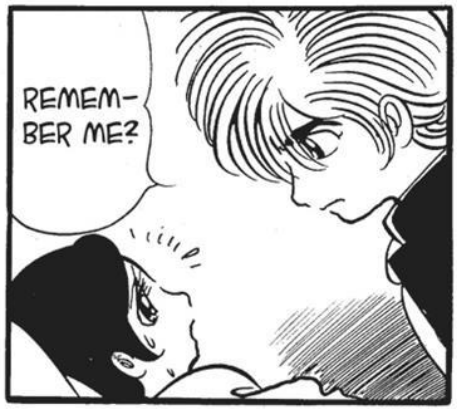
WHAT ILLNESS DOES SHE HAVE, HUH?
BUT I SAW HER ON THE TRAIN. SHE LOOKED FINE.


KAISEI HOSPITAL

O-O-ONLY FAMILY IS ALLOWED TO SEE HER!
YOU WON'T LET ME SEE HER BECAUSE YOU THINK I'M A PUNK?
I KNOW WHERE TO FIND HER.
HEY !!
面会謝絶
NO VISITORS
HERE !

OUTTA MY WAY, GRANNY!
CAN'T YOU READ? NO VISITORS!


I WANTED TO GIVE YOU THESE, AS AN APOLOGY.


REMEM-BER ME?

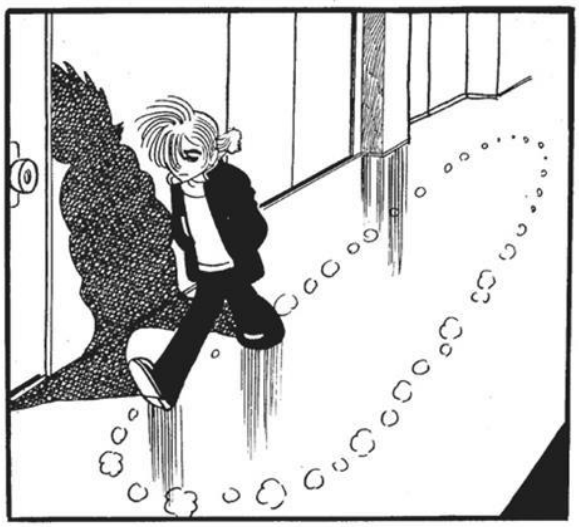
YES...

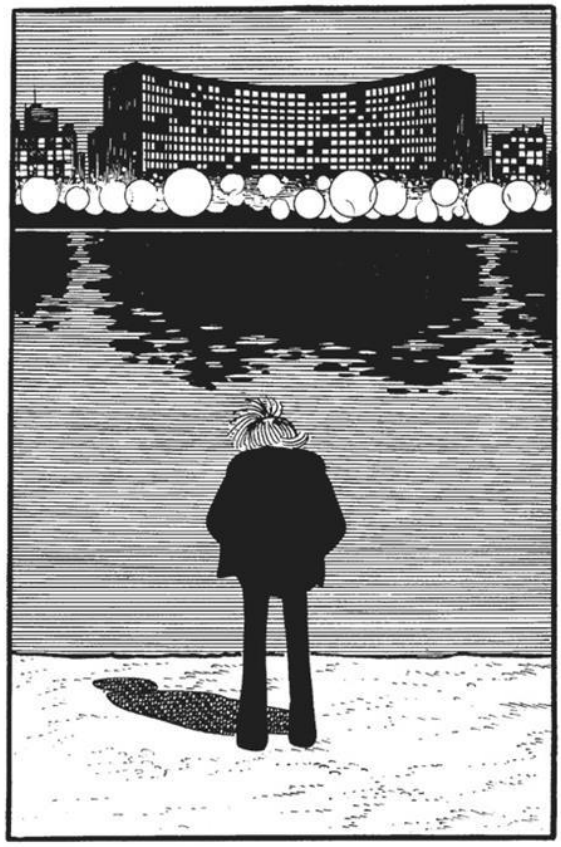
GET WELL SOON. I PROMISE, I WON'T TEASE YOU LIKE THAT AGAIN.

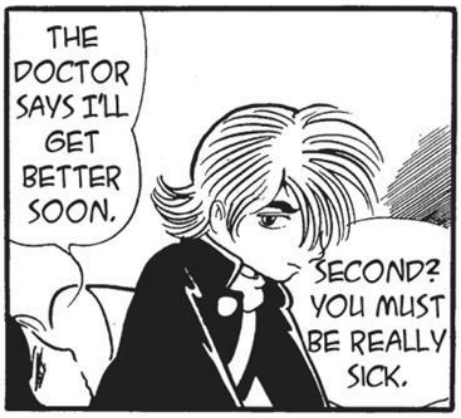
...

NOTE: "BAKA" = STUPID

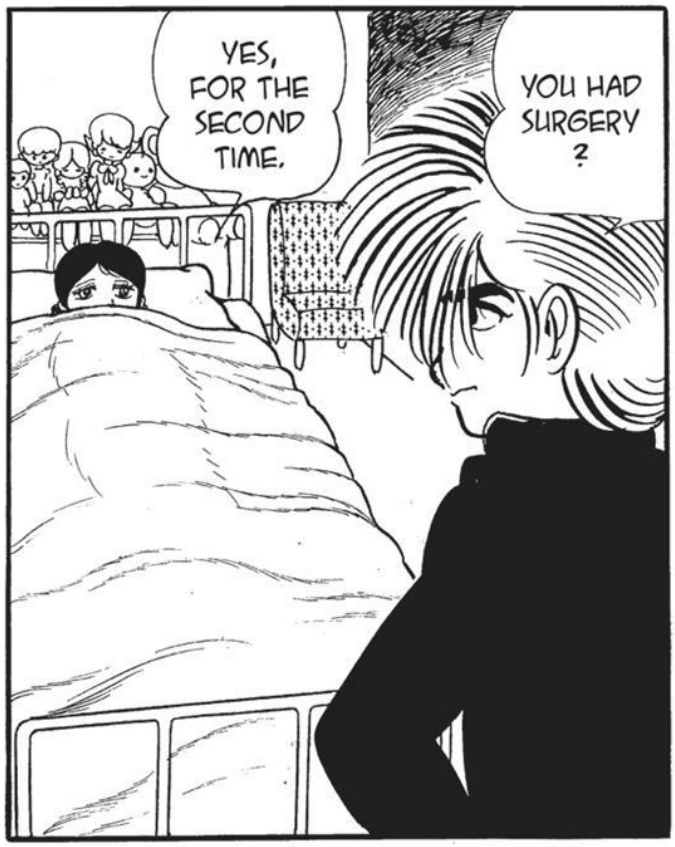
OPERATION IN PROGRESS
手術中

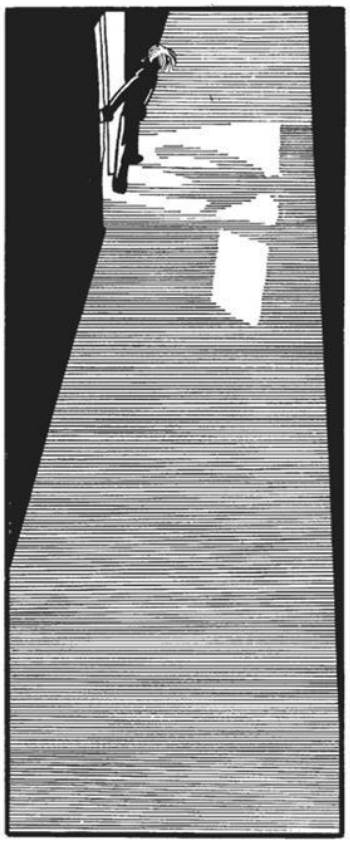





THE DOCTOR SAYS I'LL GET BETTER SOON.
SECOND? YOU MUST BE REALLY SICK.

ARE YOU STILL MAD AT ME?
...

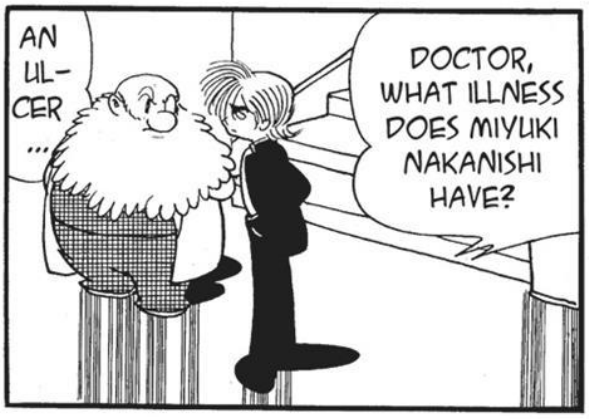

YES, FOR THE SECOND TIME.
YOU HAD SURGERY ?

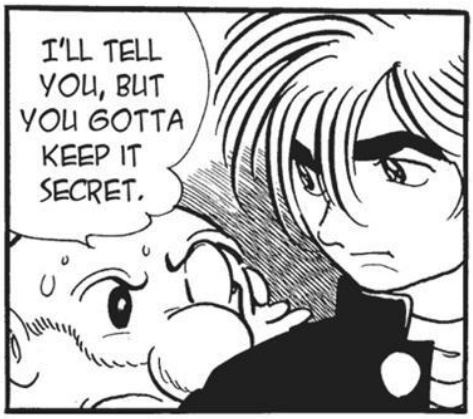


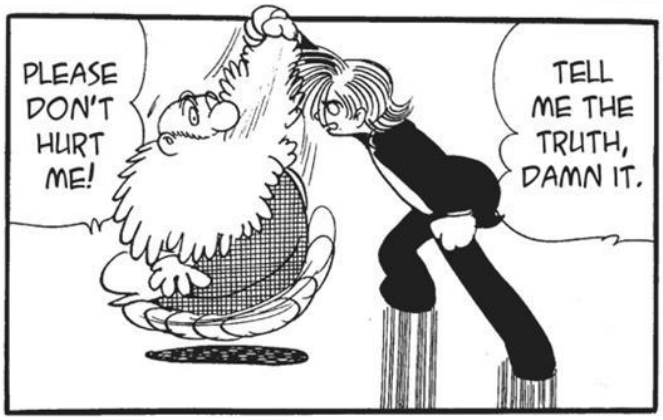
NO, IT'S FINE.
PLEASE LEAVE ME BE.

I'LL DO ANYTHING YOU WANT ME TO.
MIYUKI, I'M BEGGING YOU. DON'T HATE ME. I'VE APOLOGIZED.

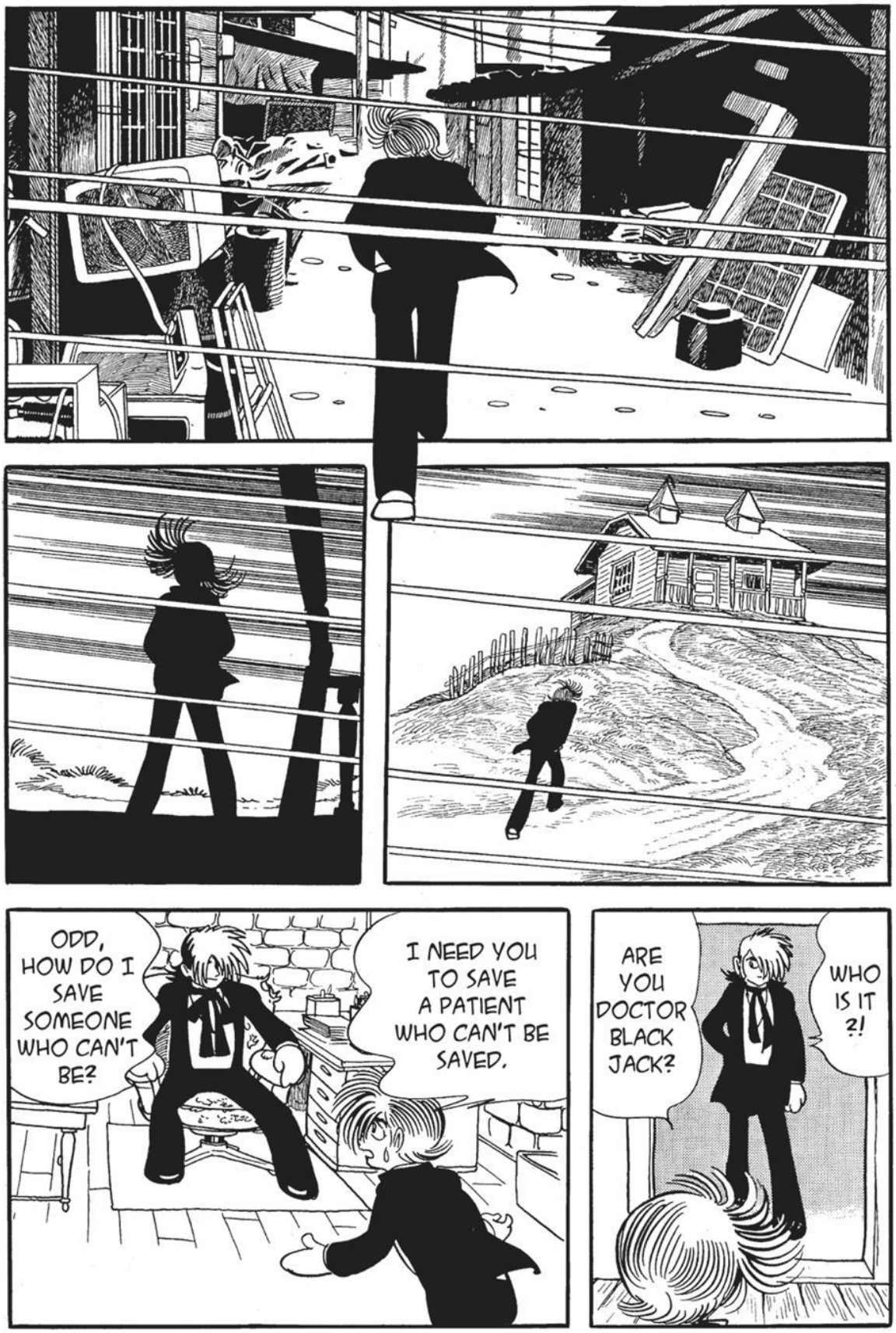
I'VE HAD AN ULCER! IF THAT WAS IT SHE WOULDN'T LOOK SO AWFUL!
DON'T LIE TO ME !!


AN UL-CER ...
DOCTOR, WHAT ILLNESS DOES MIYUKI NAKANISHI HAVE?

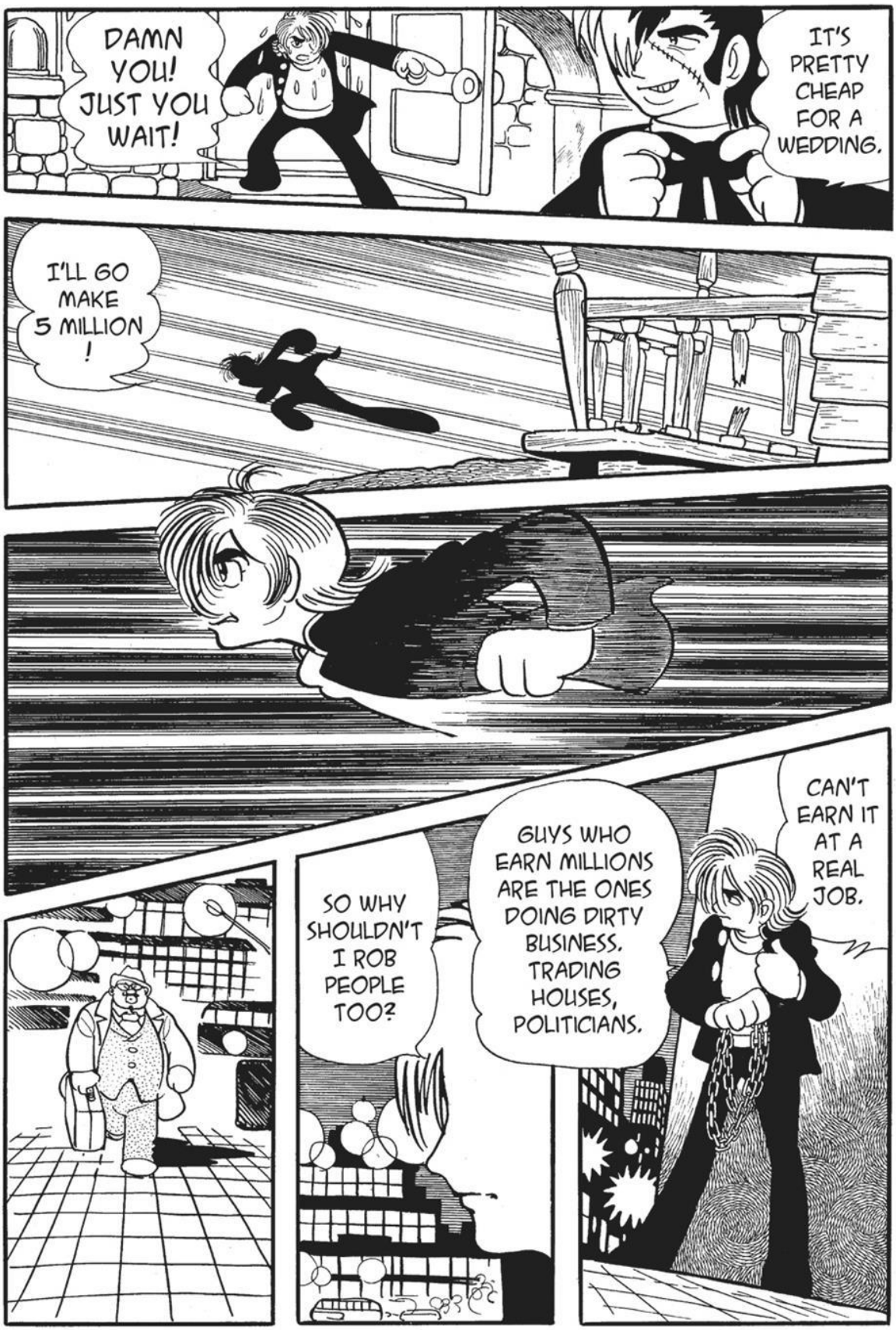

I'LL TELL YOU, BUT YOU GOTTA KEEP IT SECRET.

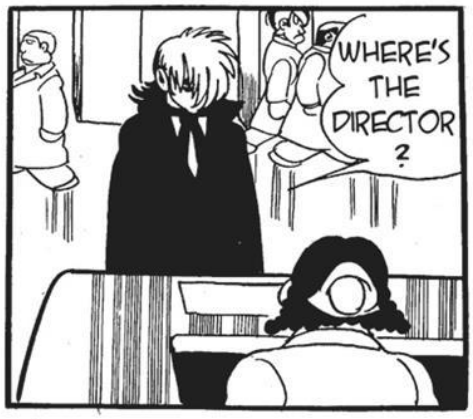

PLEASE DON'T HURT ME!
TELL ME THE TRUTH, DAMN IT.

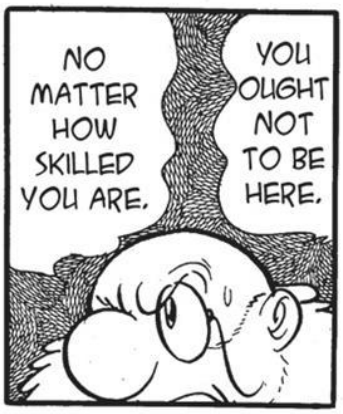
CANCER
A WEEK, MAYBE MORE. IT'S SAD, BUT THERE'S NOTHING LEFT TO DO.
CAN'T SAVE HER.
HOW LONG DOES SHE HAVE?
SHE HAS TUMORS ALL OVER. EVEN WITH SURGERY, SHE'S DONE FOR.
ROTTEN JERK!
DAMMIT, JUST CURE HER! "CAN'T SAVE HER"?!
HE'S A DOCTOR, BUT HE'LL LET HER DIE?


ODD, HOW DO I SAVE SOMEONE WHO CAN'T BE?
I NEED YOU TO SAVE A PATIENT WHO CAN'T BE SAVED.
ARE YOU DOCTOR BLACK JACK?
WHO IS IT ?!

THAT'S WHAT I'VE HEARD.
BUT YOU CAN CURE HER!
THEN GIVE IT UP.
IT'S CANCER. THE DOCTOR IN CHARGE SAYS SHE'S A GONER.
YOUR LOVER?
SO IS SHE
THEN I'LL KIDNAP HER AND BRING HER HERE!
THEY WON'T ALLOW ME TO OPERATE AT THE HOSPITAL.
F-FIVE MILLION?
MY FEE IS 5 MILLION, DUE IN FULL.
I...
YES... SHE'S MY GIRL.
CAN YOU PAY ?
I'M GONNA MARRY HER SOMEDAY.


DAMN YOU! JUST YOU WAIT!
IT'S PRETTY CHEAP FOR A WEDDING.
I'LL GO MAKE 5 MILLION !
CAN'T EARN IT AT A REAL JOB.
GUYS WHO EARN MILLIONS ARE THE ONES DOING DIRTY BUSINESS. TRADING HOUSES, POLITICIANS.
SO WHY SHOULDN'T I ROB PEOPLE TOO?


WHERE'S THE DIRECTOR ?


NO MATTER HOW SKILLED YOU ARE.
YOU OUGHT NOT TO BE HERE.

BLACK JACK!!

WHY HER?!
MIYUKI NAKA-NISHI?

YOU BRING SHAME TO US ALL.
YOU'RE UNLICENSED AND YOU OPERATE JUST FOR THE MONEY.

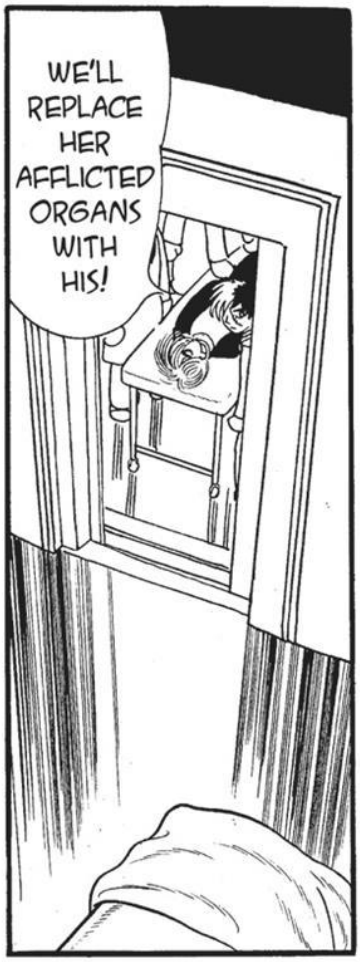
...
KIDNEYS, LIVER, STOMACH, INTESTINES, ALL RIDDLED WITH TUMORS.
THE CANCER'S METASTASIZED ALL THROUGH HER BODY. SURGERY IS POINTLESS.
ANOTHER OPERA-TION?
SHE'S NOT LONG FOR THIS WORLD!
IT'S NO USE!
YOUR LAST. I'LL BE DOING THIS ONE.
HANG IN THERE.
I'LL CURE YOU ALL RIGHT.
OKAY, FINE. I'LL TAKE THE BLAME.

HUSTLE BUSTLE
BUSTLE
HUSTLE
COPS HAD TO SHOOT HIM.
A YOUNG ROBBER.
SORRY, DOCTOR BLACK JACK...
I COULDN'T GET THE 5 MIL....

SLUMP

I'M USELESS... NO GOOD... HUMAN TRASH. HEH HEH...

NO, BEN... YOU'RE NOT USELESS!


WE'LL REPLACE HER AFFLICTED ORGANS WITH HIS!

BLACK JACK, DON'T TELL ME ...

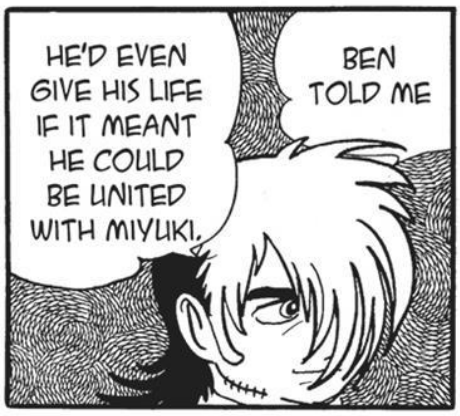
SHE'LL DIE IF I DON'T TRY.

BRING HIS BODY TO THE O.R.

GIVE ACTINO-MYCIN AND 6-MERCAPTO-PURINE.
IMPOSSIBLE. IT WON'T WORK.
REMOVE LIVER! TRANS-PLANT FROM BEN.
HER LIVER
REMOVE KIDNEYS, TRANS-PLANT BEN'S.

DONE ...
SMILE
SO THE YOUTH'S DEATH... ALLOWED A MIRACLE TO HAPPEN!
MIRACULOUS WORK, DR. BLACK JACK.
GRIP

NOW THEIR BODIES ARE, INDEED, UNITED.


BEN TOLD ME
HE'D EVEN GIVE HIS LIFE IF IT MEANT HE COULD BE UNITED WITH MIYUKI.

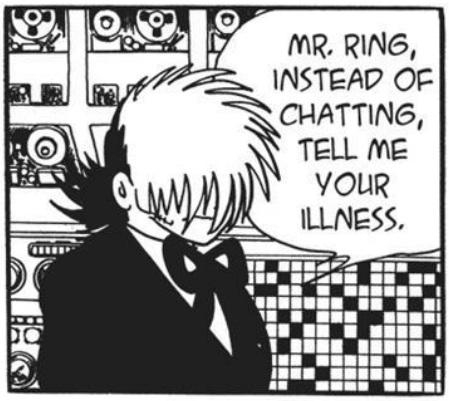
LOST YOUTH

MAKE YOUR-SELF AT HOME.

THE CHAIR-MAN IS COMING.
HMPF. NO EXPENSE SPARED.

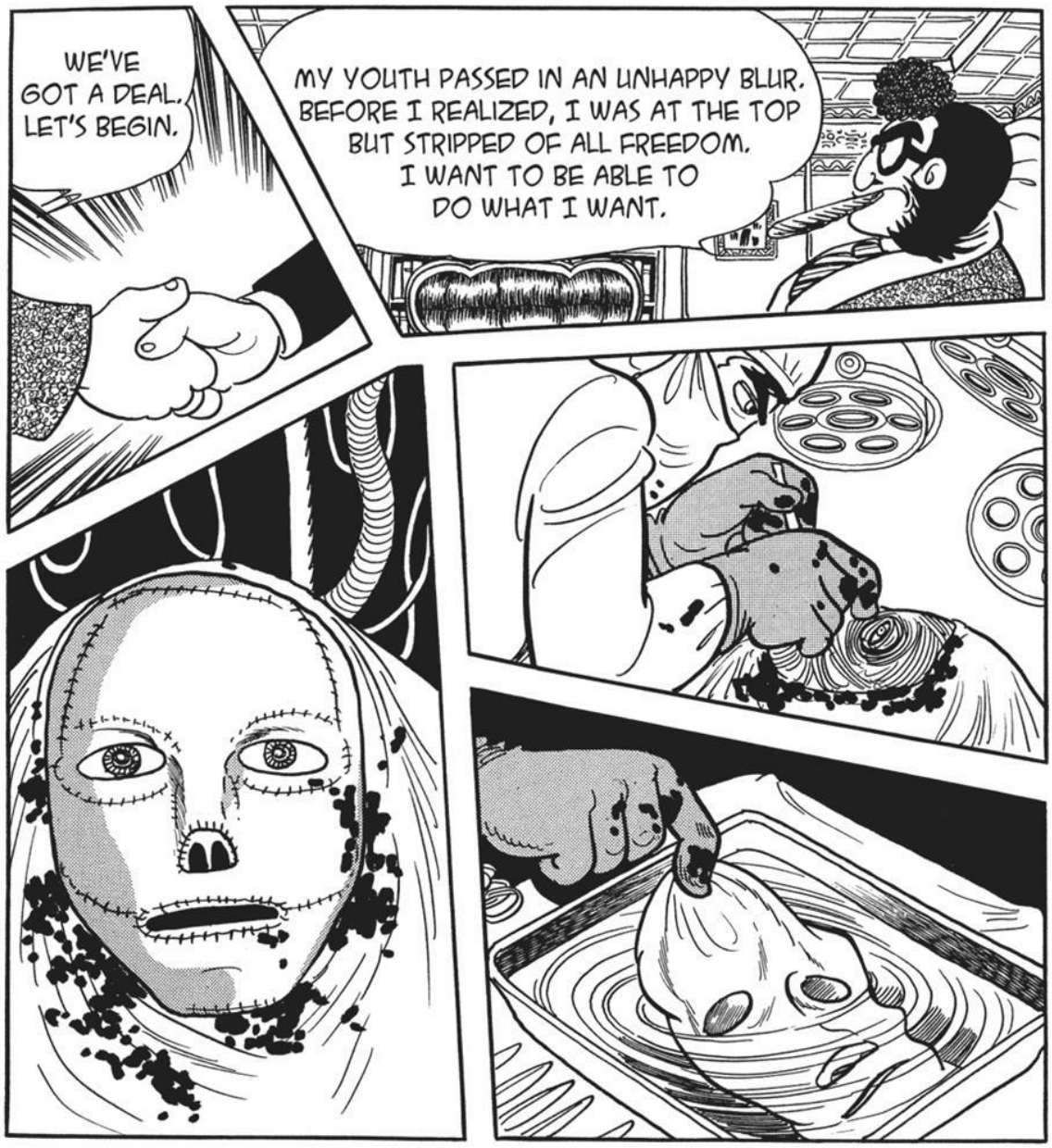
SO YOU'RE THE FAMOUS BLACK JACK.

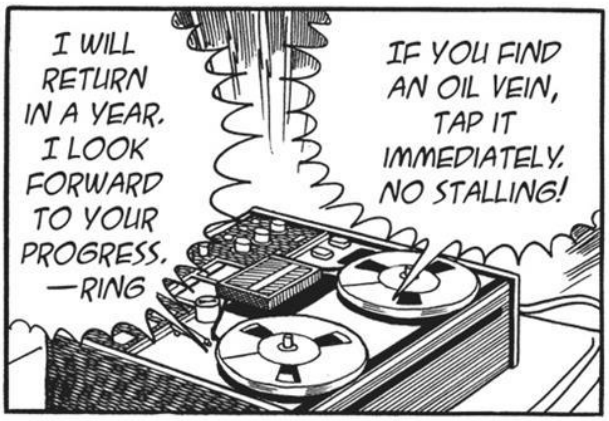
HIS MANSE IS 5 KM AWAY.



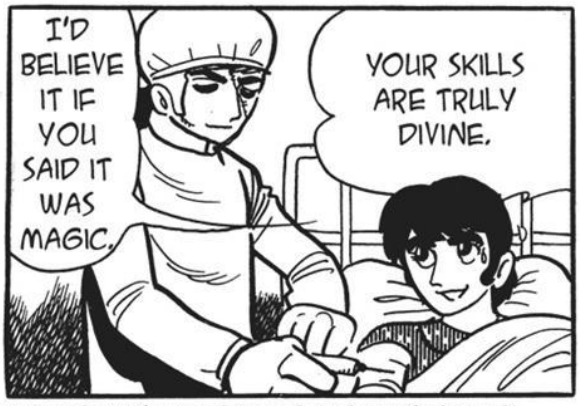
NOTE: ZETT RING IS A PUN ON JETT RINK, JAMES DEAN'S CHARACTER FROM THE 1956 FILM *GIANT* THAT PORTRAYS A TEXAS RANCHER WHO GETS RICH FROM OIL ON HIS PROPERTY.

I WANT TO TRAVEL ALONE!
EVEN IF I SEND THEM AWAY I'VE GOT A P.I. ON MY TAIL.
BUT AS SOON AS I GO OUTSIDE I'M SURROUNDED BY HANGERS-ON!
LIKE YOU!
I WANT MY YOUTH BACK!
DON'T YOU GET IT ?
THEN WEAR A DIS-GUISE.
I WANT A NEW FACE, BODY, IDENTITY.
BUT JUST FOR A YEAR.
AFTER A YEAR I WANT YOU TO TRANSFORM ME BACK. CAN YOU DO IT?
SO BASICALLY YOU WANT TO BE YOUNG AND NEW?
WHAT AN EXTRAVAGANT HOBBY.
I CAN, BUT THE PRICE FOR THIS WILL MAKE YOUR EYES BULGE.
I'LL PAY ANY-THING!
I WANT A NEW VOICE AND FIN-GERPRINTS, TOO.


WE'VE GOT A DEAL. LET'S BEGIN.
MY YOUTH PASSED IN AN UNHAPPY BLUR. BEFORE I REALIZED, I WAS AT THE TOP BUT STRIPPED OF ALL FREEDOM. I WANT TO BE ABLE TO DO WHAT I WANT.

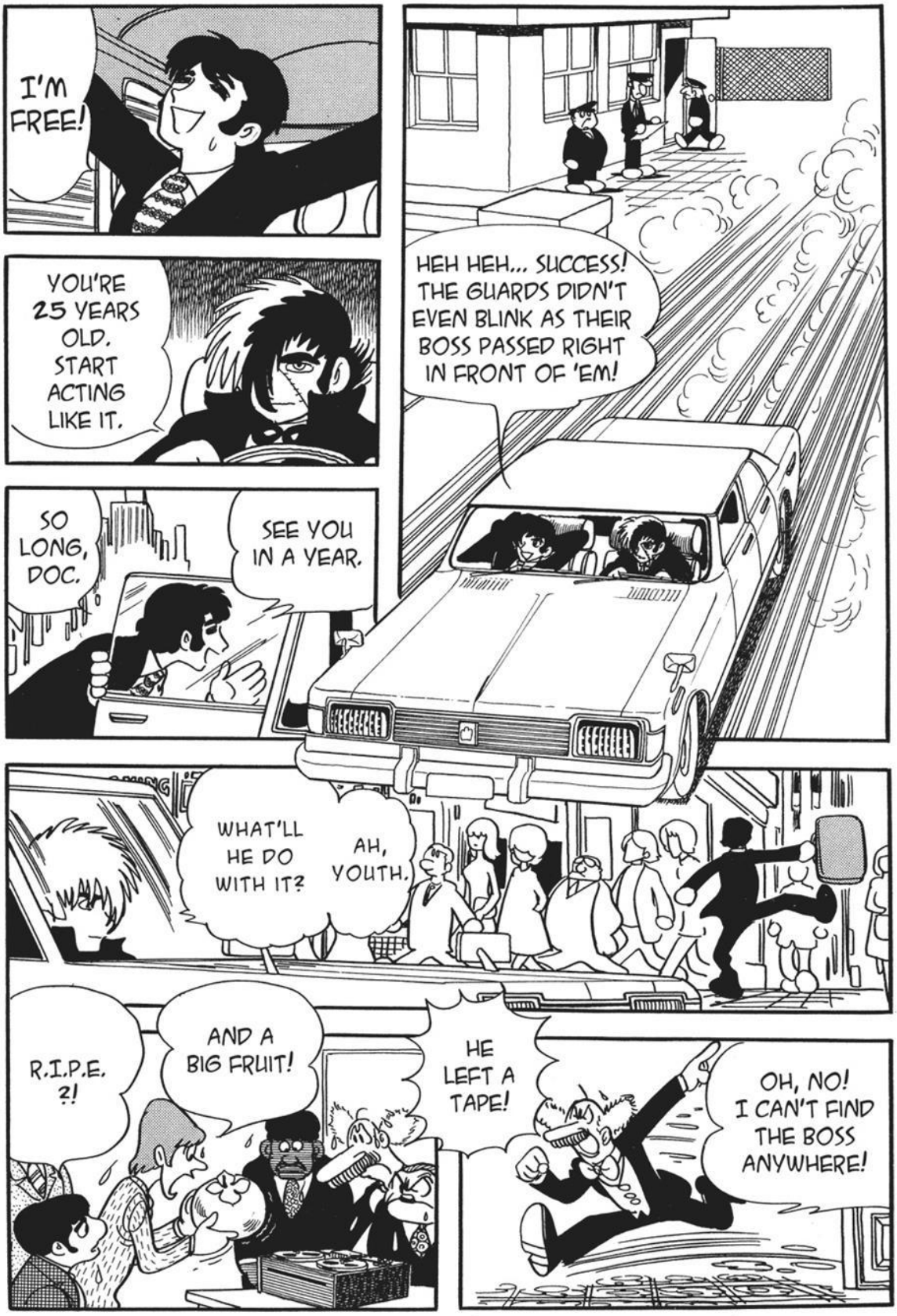

I WILL RETURN IN A YEAR. I LOOK FORWARD TO YOUR PROGRESS. —RING
IF YOU FIND AN OIL VEIN, TAP IT IMMEDIATELY. NO STALLING!

CONTINUE TO PUSH ON WITH BUSINESS WHILE I'M GONE.
MEMBERS OF THE BOARD, I WILL GO ON A PRIVATE JOURNEY FOR ONE YEAR.

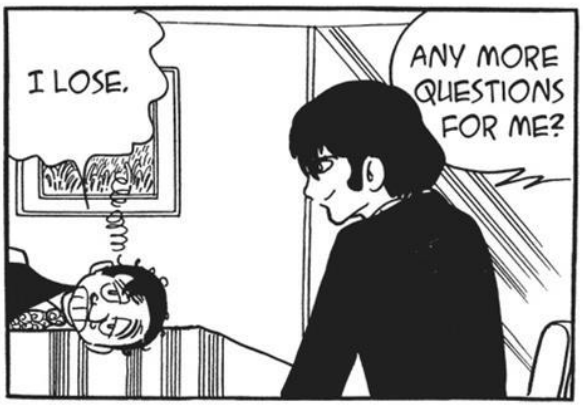


NOTE: ALAIN DELON WAS A HANDSOME FRENCH ACTOR AND HIROMI GO A JAPANESE IDOL, WHILE YUZO KAYAMA PLAYED BLACK JACK IN THE SERIES' LIVE ADAPTATION. IN THE LAST PANEL, RING IS DRAWN LIKE TATSUHIKO YAMAGAMI'S "KID COP."

I'LL INPUT EVERY LITTLE DETAIL ABOUT
MY CURRENT BODY AS DATA.
MY COMPUTER COMES INTO PLAY.
AND NOW
OTHERWISE YOU COULD MAKE SOMEONE ELSE LOOK EXACTLY LIKE ME AND GAIN ACCESS.
WHEN I RETURN, IT'LL RECOGNIZE ME AND VERIFY THAT I'M THE TRUE CHAIRMAN.
THIS WAY,
CAN'T SAY. I'LL CONTACT YOU AS NEED BE.
WHERE WILL YOU SPEND THE YEAR?
HA HA, THAT WAS A JOKE!
LET ME SNEAK OUT THE FRONT GATES IN YOUR CAR.


I'M FREE!
YOU'RE 25 YEARS OLD. START ACTING LIKE IT.
HEH HEH... SUCCESS! THE GUARDS DIDN'T EVEN BLINK AS THEIR BOSS PASSED RIGHT IN FRONT OF 'EM!
SO LONG, DOC.
SEE YOU IN A YEAR.
WHAT'LL HE DO WITH IT?
AH, YOUTH.
R.I.P.E. ?!
AND A BIG FRUIT!
HE LEFT A TAPE!
OH, NO! I CAN'T FIND THE BOSS ANYWHERE!

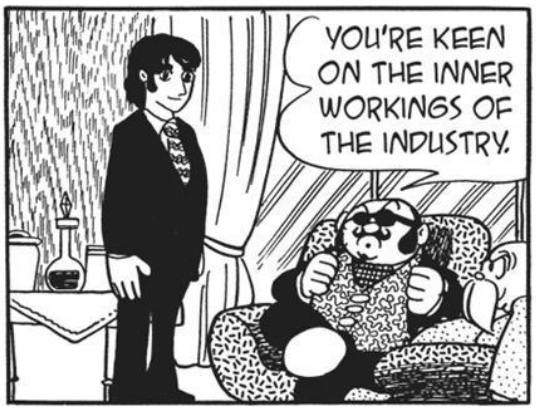
ZETT RING, CHAIRMAN OF THE RING GROUP, HAS DISAPPEARED. A TAPE WAS DELIVERED TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS STATING HE WILL BE TRAVELING FOR ONE YEAR. THE BOARD CONFIRMS THAT THE VOICE ON THE TAPE IS RING'S. THEY HAVE ASKED THE FBI TO SEARCH FOR HIM.
CAN YOU HIRE ME?
I'M BLOODSTONE, HERE TO SEE H.R.
ABRAHAM OIL
I DO KNOW TONS ABOUT THE OIL BIZ.
WE'RE NOT HIRING RIGHT NOW.


I LOSE.
ANY MORE QUESTIONS FOR ME?

THROW HIM SOME CURVEBALLS.
JUST HOW MUCH IS "TONS"?

YOU'RE NOT KIDDING. HE'S INCREDIBLE.

HEY, THAT GUY'S LIKE A WALKING OIL ENCYCLOPEDIA.
LET ME AT HIM.


YOU'RE KEEN ON THE INNER WORKINGS OF THE INDUSTRY.

WE DON'T KNOW WHERE HE'S FROM, BUT HE'D BE USEFUL TO US.
BRING HIM HERE.

YEAH, RIGHT!

I'LL MAKE SURE THIS COMPANY EARNS EVEN MORE THAN YOUR RIVAL ZETT RING!

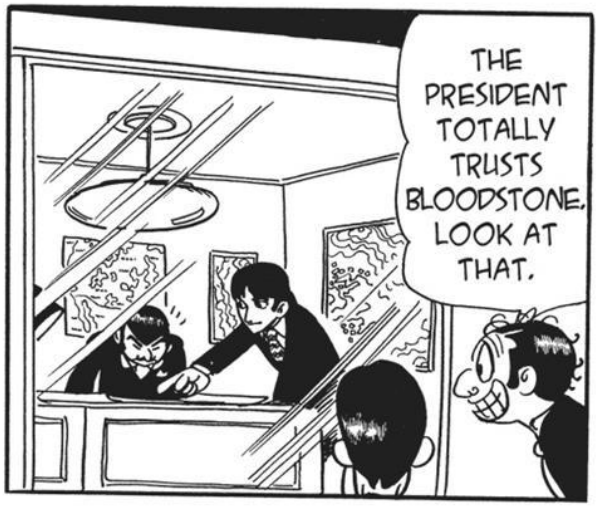
WANT TO WORK FOR US?
YES, PLEASE!

IT'S BEEN A MONTH.

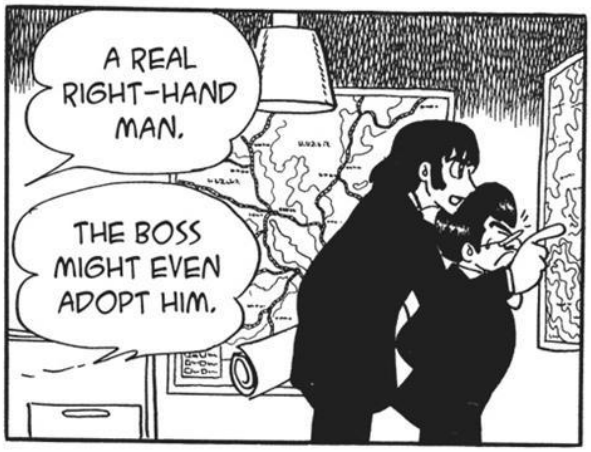
HE'S A SHARP KID.
AND THEY WERE ALL CLIENTS OF ZETT RING BEFORE.
HE'S ALREADY SNAGGED 20 CLIENTS.

HE'S SO COOL ON THE JOB.
HE LOOKS LIKE ALAIN DELON!
AND HAND-SOME!
HE'LL BE GOING PLACES.

WANNA BE THE CHIEF SECRETARY TO THE CEO?
HMM. WE HAVE SUCH A MAN IN OUR EMPLOY?


THE PRESIDENT TOTALLY TRUSTS BLOODSTONE. LOOK AT THAT.

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD, WE'LL OUTSTRIP, CRUSH AND OVERTHROW ZETT RING!


A REAL RIGHT-HAND MAN.
THE BOSS MIGHT EVEN ADOPT HIM.

IF IT ISN'T RING. ENJOYING YOUR TRAVELS?

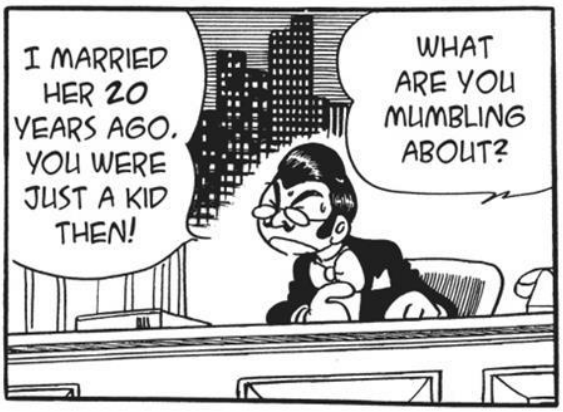
DOCTOR BLACK JACK?

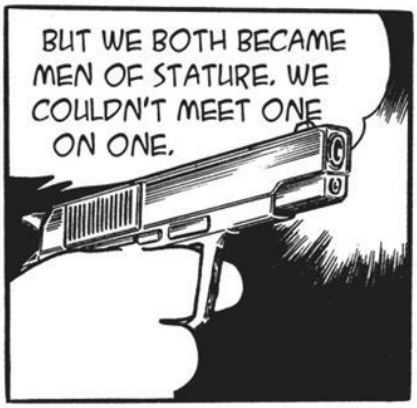
BETTER ENJOY IT.
WELL, YOU SPENT A LOT FOR YOUR YEAR OF FREEDOM.

I AM, VERY MUCH.

UH-UH. I QUIT, EFFECTIVE TONIGHT.
YOU'RE A FINE SECRETARY. SOMEDAY, NO DOUBT, YOU'LL BE PROMOTED TO MANAGEMENT LEVEL.
TOMORROW WILL MARK A YEAR SINCE YOU JOINED THIS COMPANY.
WHAT HAPPENED TO YOUR WIFE, SIR?
WHY? IS IT THE MONEY? I'LL DOUBLE YOUR PAY!
WHAT?!
STOLE HER AWAY FROM ME. AND NOW YOU LET HER DIE!
AND YOU...
SHE WAS MY LOVER MANY YEARS AGO.
SHE DIED A YEAR AGO. WHY?
MY WIFE?

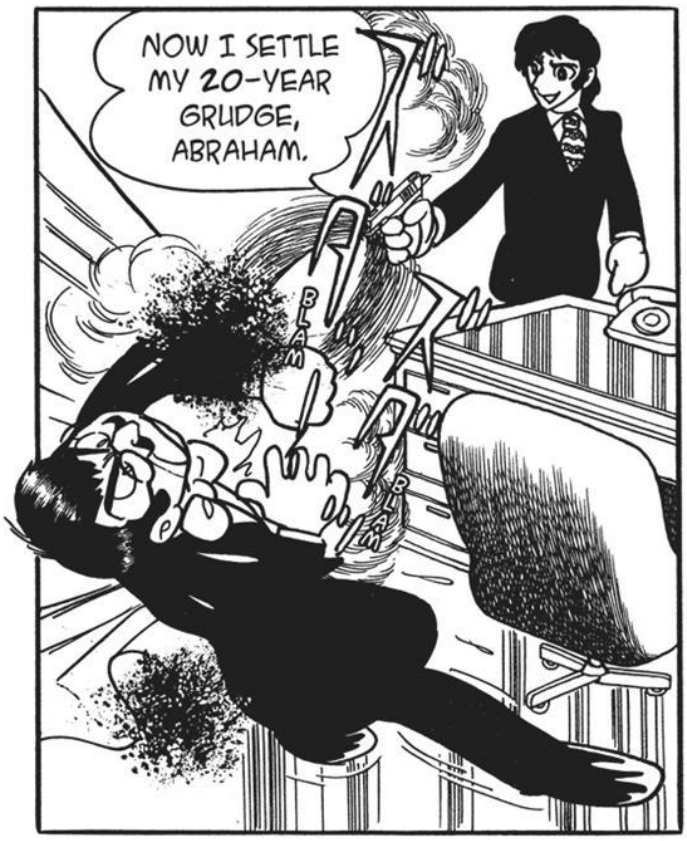
YES... YOU AND I WERE BOTH YOUNG. SHE WAS YOUNG, TOO. I LOVED HER WITH ALL MY HEART.


I MARRIED HER 20 YEARS AGO. YOU WERE JUST A KID THEN!
WHAT ARE YOU MUMBLING ABOUT?


BUT WE BOTH BECAME MEN OF STATURE. WE COULDN'T MEET ONE ON ONE.

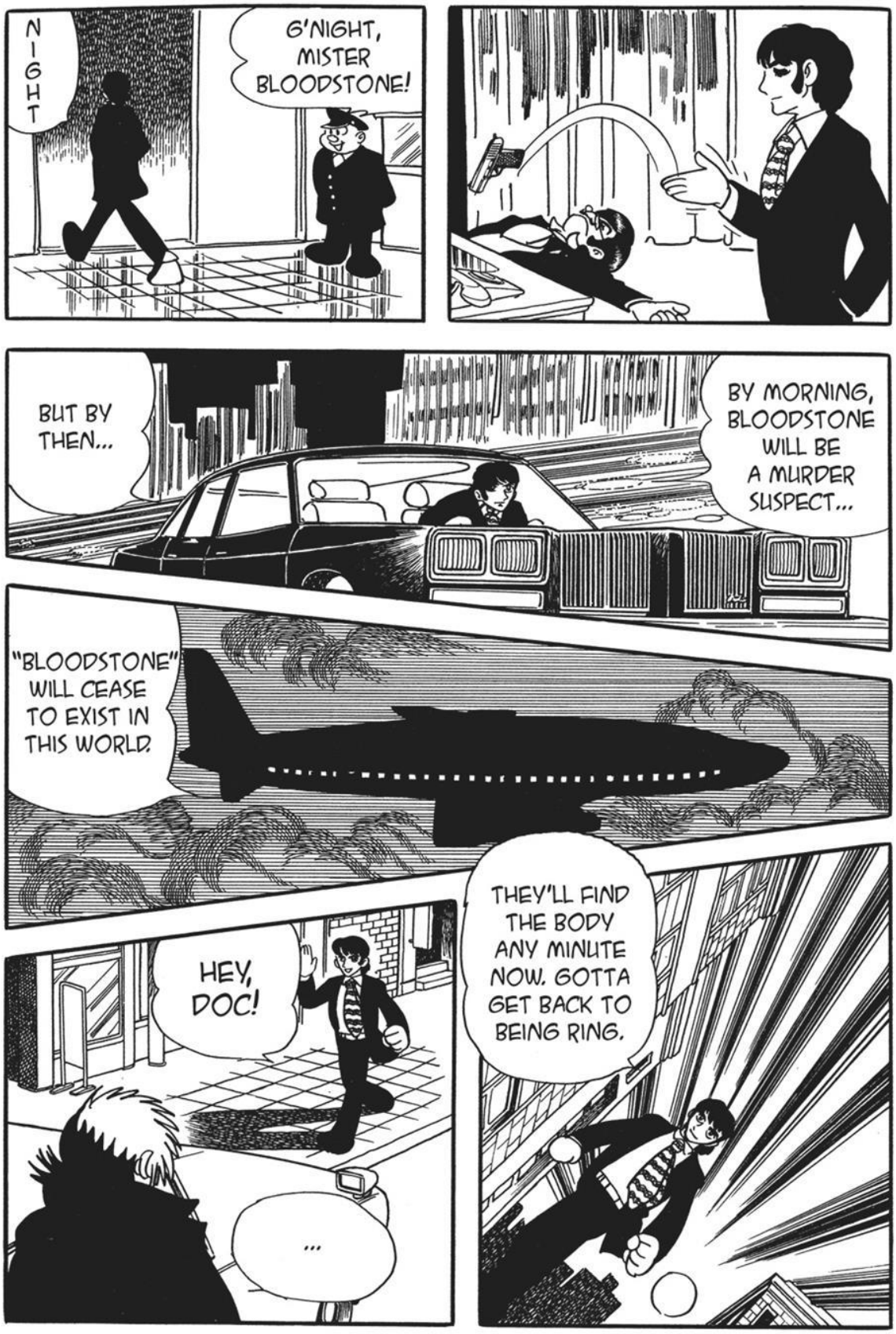
NO WAY!
WAIT, YOU'RE...

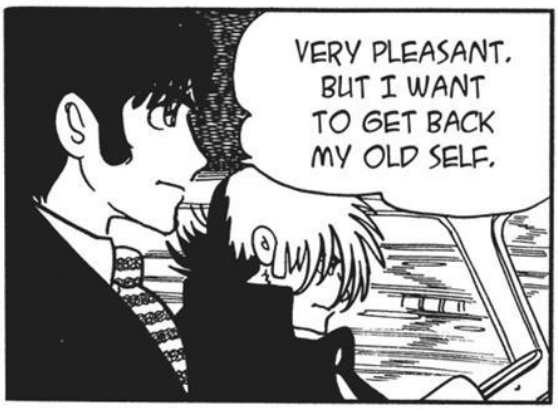
WHEN YOU SNATCHED HER FROM ME, I SWORE
I'D KILL YOU MYSELF!


NOW I SETTLE MY 20-YEAR GRUDGE, ABRAHAM.
BLAM
BLAM

ZETT RING!!

THAT'S WHY I BECAME A NEW MAN AND JOINED YOUR RANKS
AND WAITED FOR A CHANCE TO GET YOU ALONE.


NIGHT
G'NIGHT, MISTER BLOODSTONE!
BUT BY THEN...
BY MORNING, BLOODSTONE WILL BE A MURDER SUSPECT...
"BLOODSTONE" WILL CEASE TO EXIST IN THIS WORLD.
HEY, DOC!
...
THEY'LL FIND THE BODY ANY MINUTE NOW. GOTTA GET BACK TO BEING RING.


VERY PLEASANT. BUT I WANT TO GET BACK MY OLD SELF.

HOW WAS YOUR TRIP?

BACK FROM MY JOURNEY.
I'M ZETT RING
ARE YOU NUTS?!

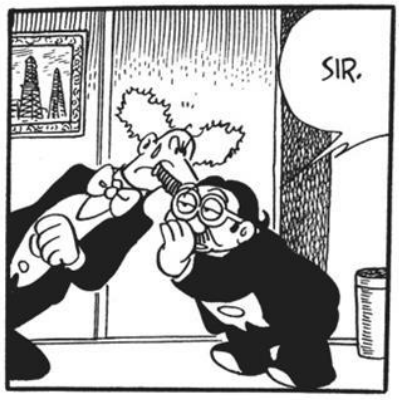
I WAS SURE YOU'D WANT TO STAY THIS WAY FOREVER.

I HAD TOTAL PLASTIC SURGERY.
I'M STILL RING! DON'T YOU SEE?
WHERE'S YOUR PROOF?

THROW THIS DIMWIT OUT!
WHAT ?!
WH-
HOW DARE YOU SPEAK TO ME THAT WAY?!

THERE'S A WEIRDO HERE CLAIMING TO BE THE CHAIRMAN.

AH, DIREC-TOR.
IT'S ME.


SIR.

THIS DOCTOR CHANGED THEM FOR ME!
HE'S A SUR-GEON!

EVEN YOUR FINGERPRINTS ARE DIFFERENT.

THAT'S ENOUGH! GET OUT, OR ELSE!
YOU STILL DON'T GET IT, NUMBSKULL? I'LL HAVE TO PLAY MY TRUMP CARD.

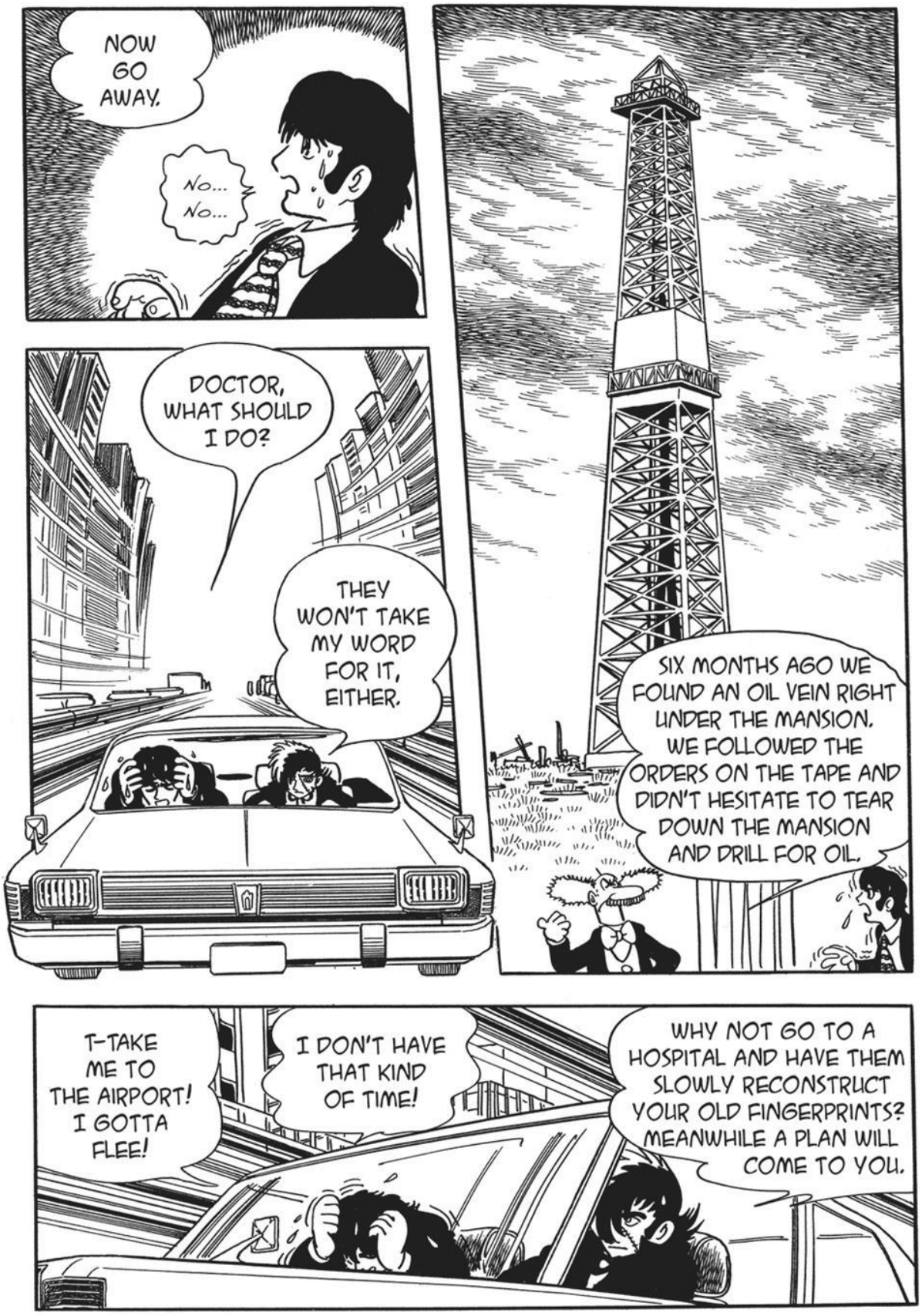
THE SUSPECT IN THE KILLING OF THE PRESIDENT OF ABRAHAM OIL...
I THINK THAT'S HIM!

WE JUNKED IT.
WHAT DO YOU MEAN, GONE ?!

WE RAZED THAT MANSION, TOO.

AHHH!

THE ONE IN MY MANSION! MY SECRETARY COMPUTER!
WHAT COMPUTER ?
THERE'S PROOF I'M RING. BEFORE I LEFT I INPUT ALL MY DATA INTO MY COMPUTER.
OH, THAT? IT'S GONE.

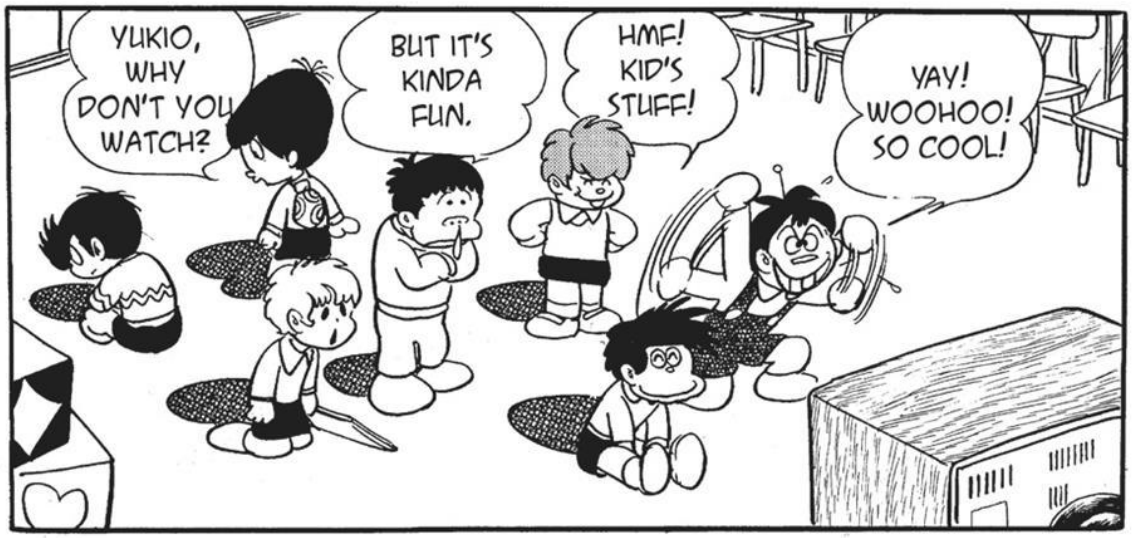

NOW GO AWAY.
No... No...
DOCTOR, WHAT SHOULD I DO?
THEY WON'T TAKE MY WORD FOR IT, EITHER.
SIX MONTHS AGO WE FOUND AN OIL VEIN RIGHT UNDER THE MANSION. WE FOLLOWED THE ORDERS ON THE TAPE AND DIDN'T HESITATE TO TEAR DOWN THE MANSION AND DRILL FOR OIL.
T-TAKE ME TO THE AIRPORT! I GOTTA FLEE!
I DON'T HAVE THAT KIND OF TIME!
WHY NOT GO TO A HOSPITAL AND HAVE THEM SLOWLY RECONSTRUCT YOUR OLD FINGERPRINTS? MEANWHILE A PLAN WILL COME TO YOU.

YOU'RE BLOODSTONE, MR. ABRAHAM'S SECRETARY, RIGHT?
YOU'RE UNDER ARREST AS A SUSPECT IN HIS MURDER.
?
HALT!
WHAT'S THE RUSH?
DAMMIT!
STEP ON IT! DO AS I SAY! BUST THROUGH 'EM!!
RING... WHAT THE HELL HAVE YOU DONE?
DOCTOR... HELP ME, PLEASE...
NO THANKS.
DON'T BOTHER POINTING THAT AT ME.

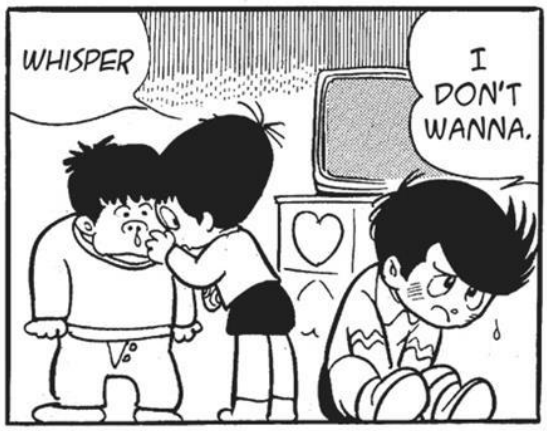
BUT IT WAS ALL TO KILL A MAN? YOU'RE A FOOL!
YOU COULD HAVE ENJOYED THE YOUTH YOU FELT YOU'D LOST!
I TURNED BACK TIME FOR YOU.
FREEZE!
STOP OR WE'LL SHOOT!
THERE'S YOUR CHANGE
FOR YOUR 2ND OP.

I WANT MY BROTHER BACK!

SUPER SHREDDER CUT!!
ARGH!


YUKIO, WHY DON'T YOU WATCH?
BUT IT'S KINDA FUN.
HMF! KID'S STUFF!
YAY! WOOHOO! SO COOL!

SHH!!
THE EVIL GHOLAS IS YUKIO'S BIG BROTHER!

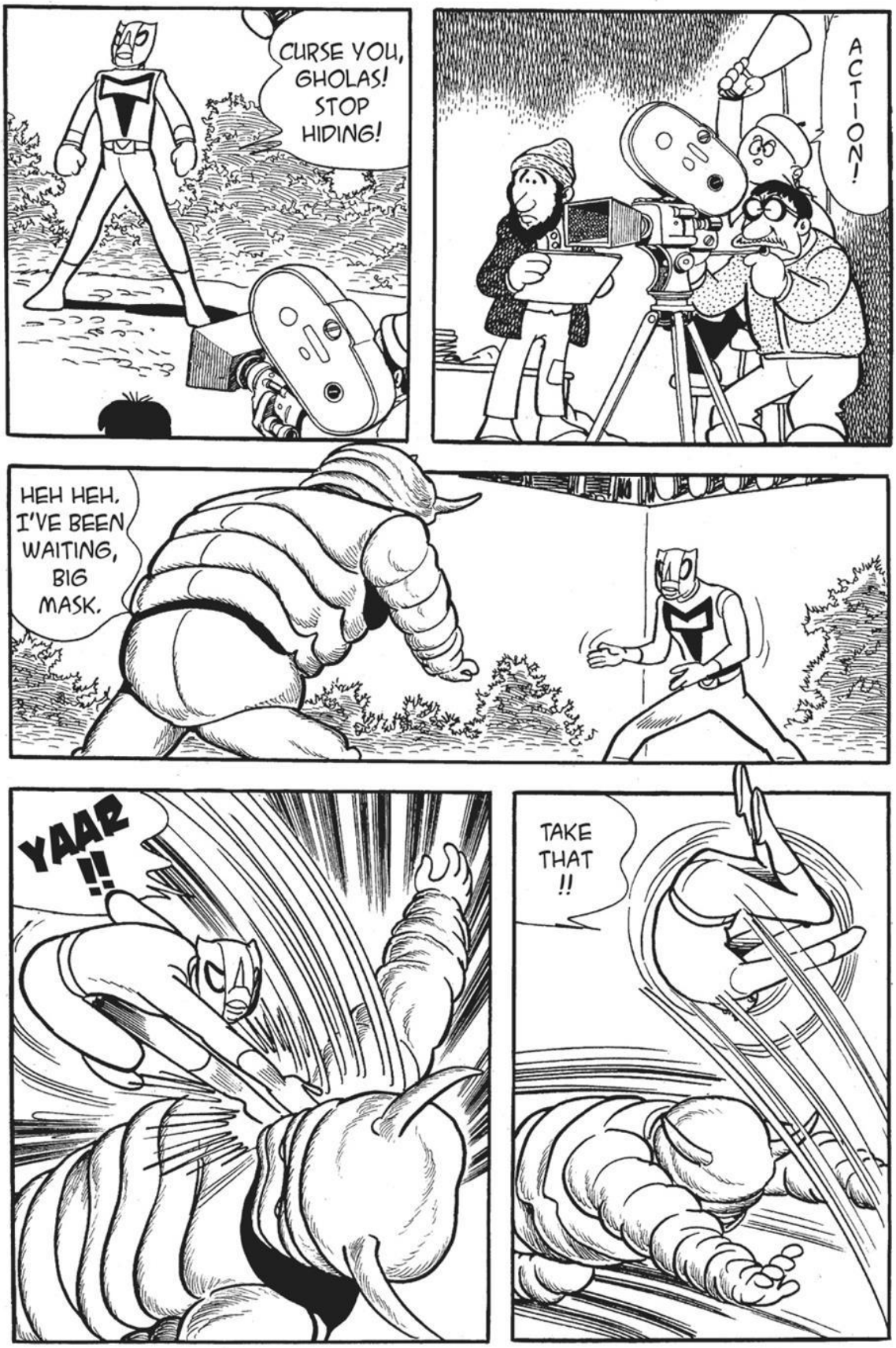

WHISPER
I DON'T WANNA.

WHY NOT?
NO, HE ISN'T!
SO HE'S A BAD GUY!
HA! YOUR BROTHER IS GHOLAS?

HE JUST PLAYS A BAD GUY ON TV! HE'S A GOOD GUY!
OH, YEAH? THEN WHY DOESN'T HE PLAY BIG MASK?

WAAH! DUMB DUMMY!

GHOLAS!
GHOLAS!
HE CAN'T DO IT! THAT'S WHY HE'S GHOLAS!
YOU!


CURSE YOU, GHOLAS! STOP HIDING!
ACTION!
HEH HEH. I'VE BEEN WAITING, BIG MASK.
YAAR !!
TAKE THAT !!

THAT'S ALL FOR TODAY.
OK, CUT!

YAMADA, THIS COSTUME DOESN'T FIT ME. CAN YOU REDO IT?
ANY-THING WRONG ?

WHEW

WHAT DOES ?

IT STINGS.
OW OW OW. MY GROIN'S BURNING UP.

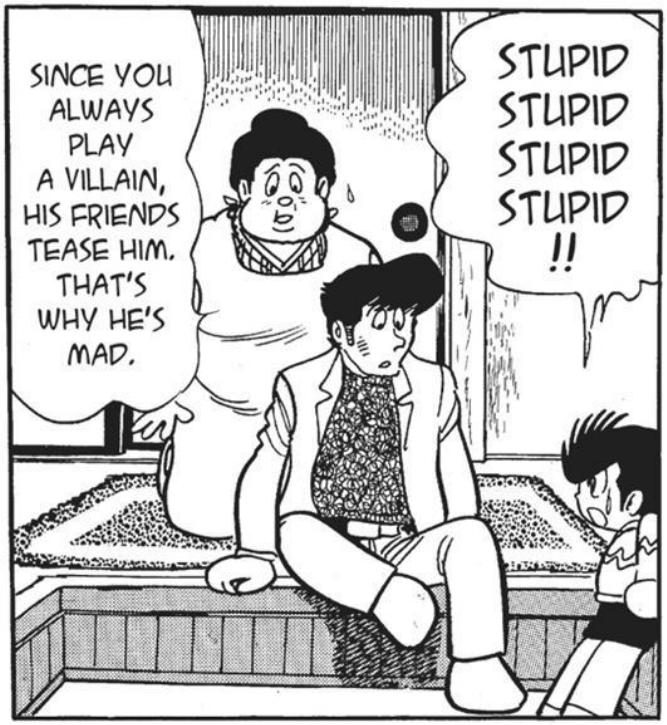
WE NEED TO FILM FIVE EPISODES OVER WINTER BREAK.
WE DON'T HAVE THAT KIND OF TIME.

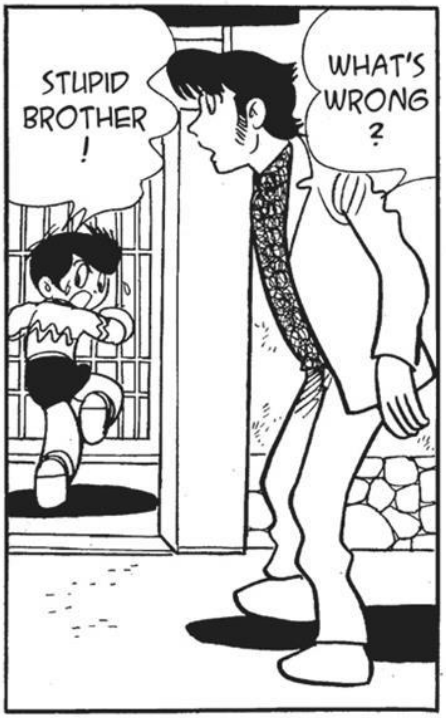
ANOTHER WEEK OF THIS AND I'LL BE A CASTRATO.

GOTTA KEEP 'EM SAFE!
MY FAMILY JEWELS !

OWIE.

HEY, YUKIO!

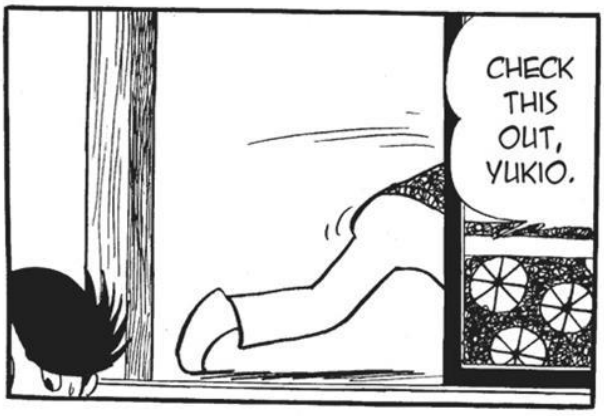

SINCE YOU ALWAYS PLAY A VILLAIN, HIS FRIENDS TEASE HIM. THAT'S WHY HE'S MAD.
STUPID STUPID STUPID STUPID !!


STUPID BROTHER !
WHAT'S WRONG ?

I HATE YOU!

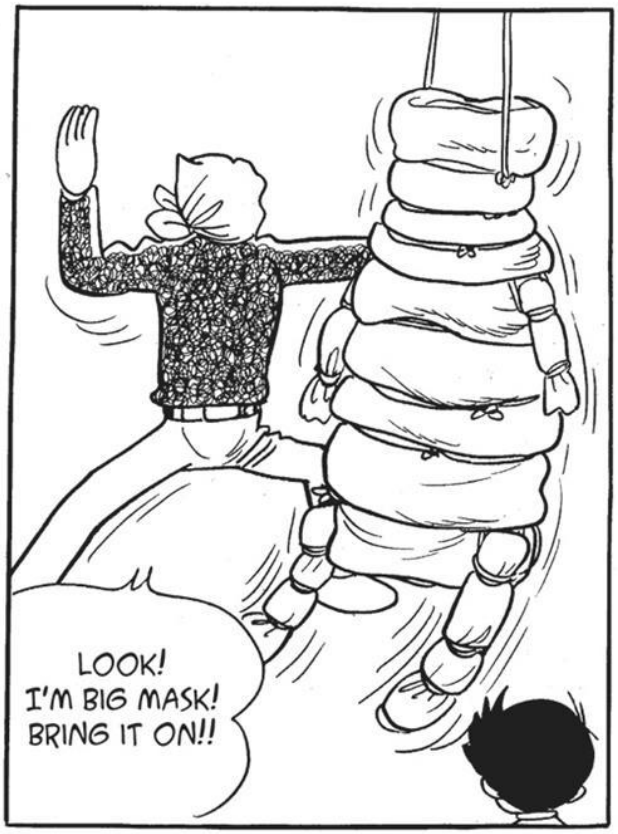
LISTEN, I DO WANT TO PLAY THE HERO. BUT THEY CAST ME AS THE BAD GUY WHEN THEY MADE THE PROGRAM.

OH, IS THAT ALL?


CHECK THIS OUT, YUKIO.

I'LL BE TOTALLY COOL!
I'LL BE THE STAR SOMEDAY!

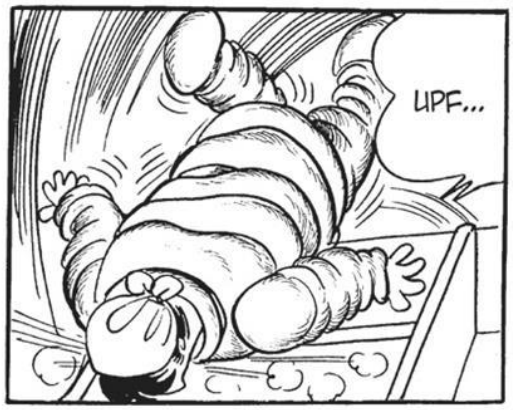
WHUNK
EEK!


LOOK! I'M BIG MASK! BRING IT ON!!

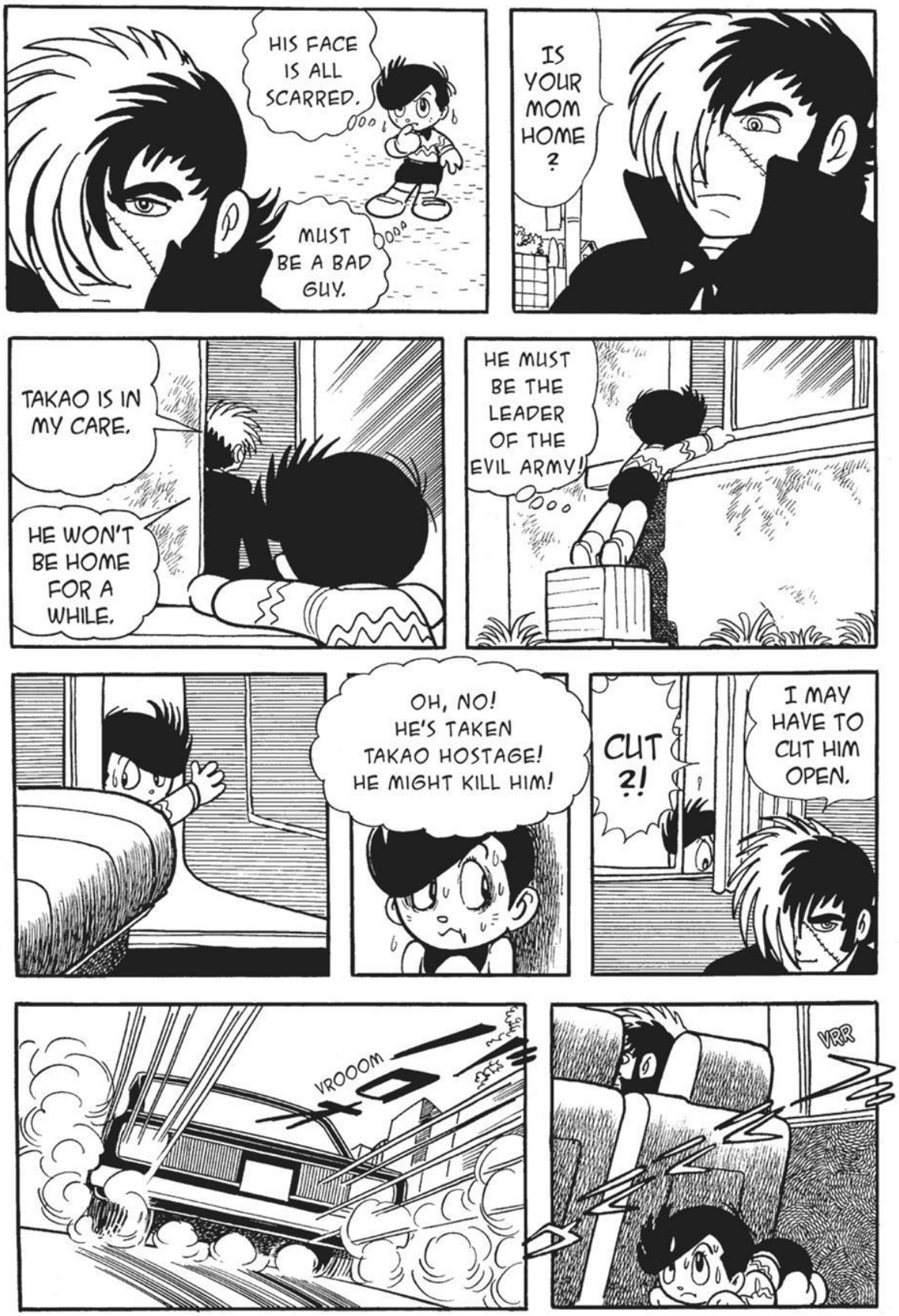
NO WAY, MOM.
TAKAO, IF YOU'RE NOT FEELING WELL, YOU SHOULD TAKE TIME OFF.
I'M STAYING AT THE STUDIO STARTING TOMOR-ROW.
IT'S CRUNCH TIME. WE GOTTA DO 4 WEEKS' WORTH OF SHOOTING OR WE WON'T MAKE IT.
OOH, IT BURNS! IT STINGS !!
SHOW IT TO THE DOCTOR. I KNOW A GOOD ONE.
I'LL BE FINE.
DOES IT BURN?
YOU LOOK LIKE YOU'RE IN PAIN.
INFLAMED !
THIS IS BAD.

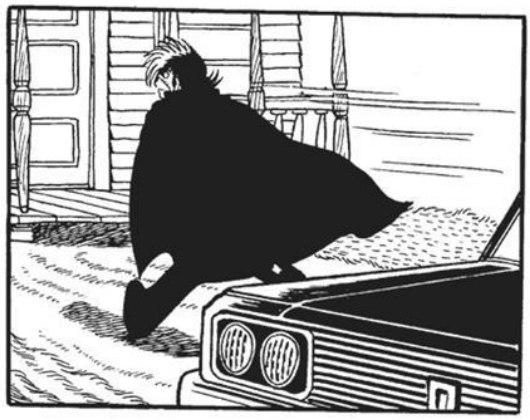
OH, NO. QUICK, CALL THE DOCTOR!

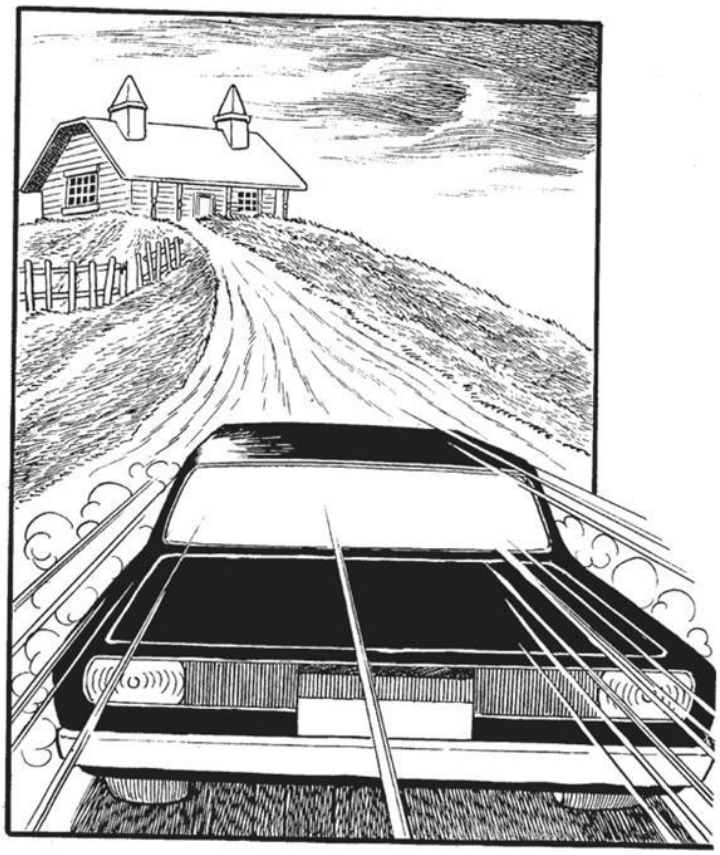
NO CHOICE, GOTTA FINISH FILMING.


UPF...

WHO ARE YOU ?!
My brother hasn't come home since then. I wonder what happened. I'm worried.


HIS FACE IS ALL SCARRED.
MUST BE A BAD GUY.
IS YOUR MOM HOME ?
TAKAO IS IN MY CARE.
HE WON'T BE HOME FOR A WHILE.
HE MUST BE THE LEADER OF THE EVIL ARMY!
OH, NO! HE'S TAKEN TAKAO HOSTAGE! HE MIGHT KILL HIM!
CUT ?!
I MAY HAVE TO CUT HIM OPEN.
VROOOM
VRR

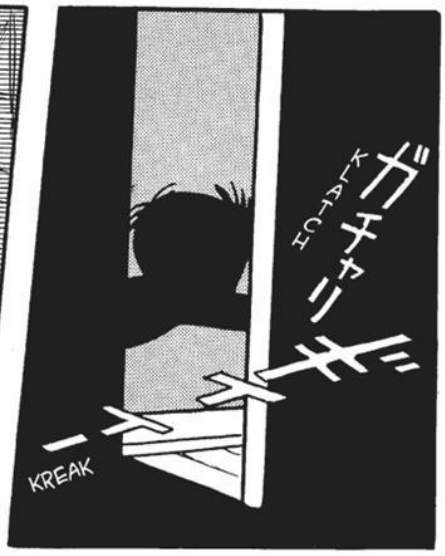


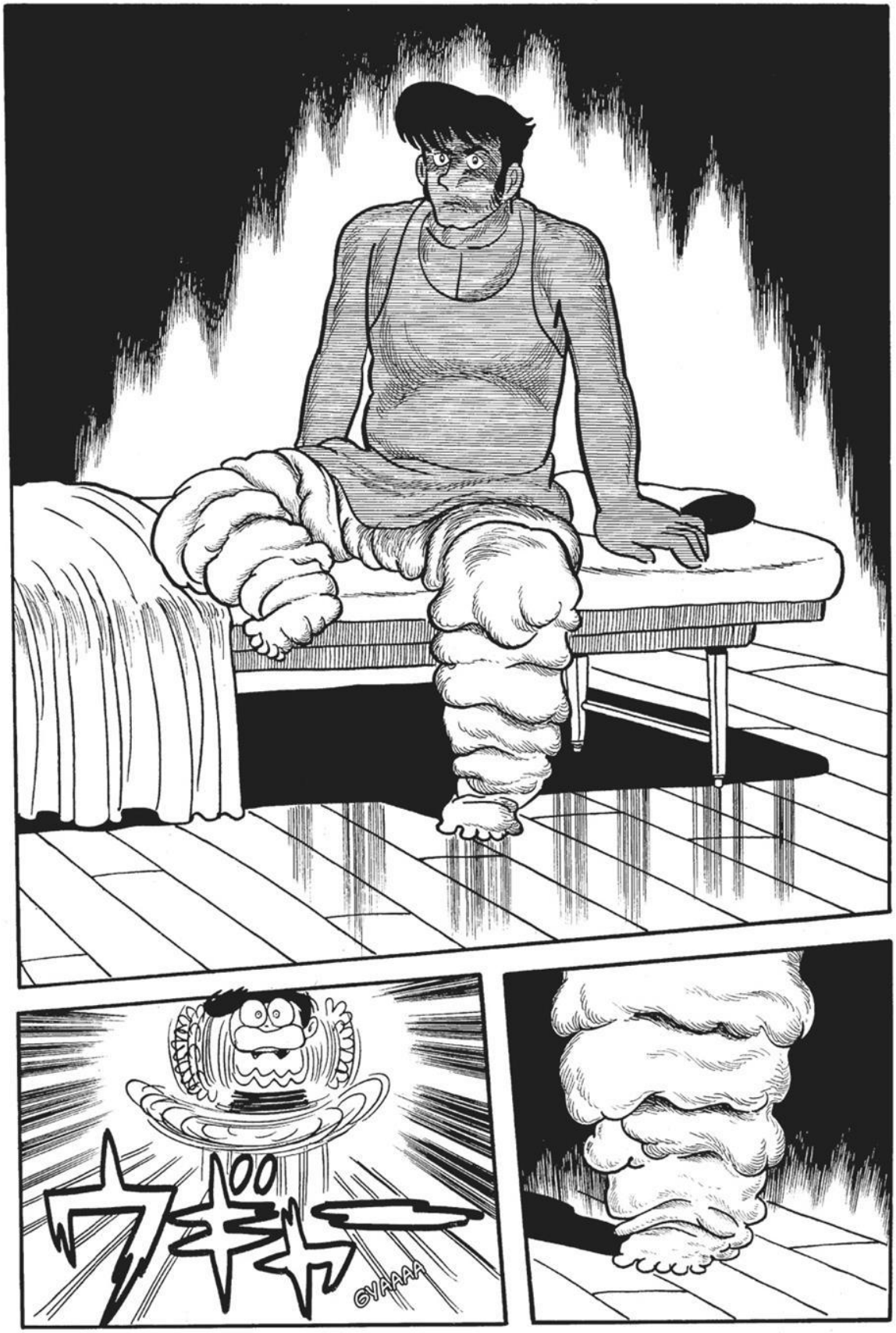


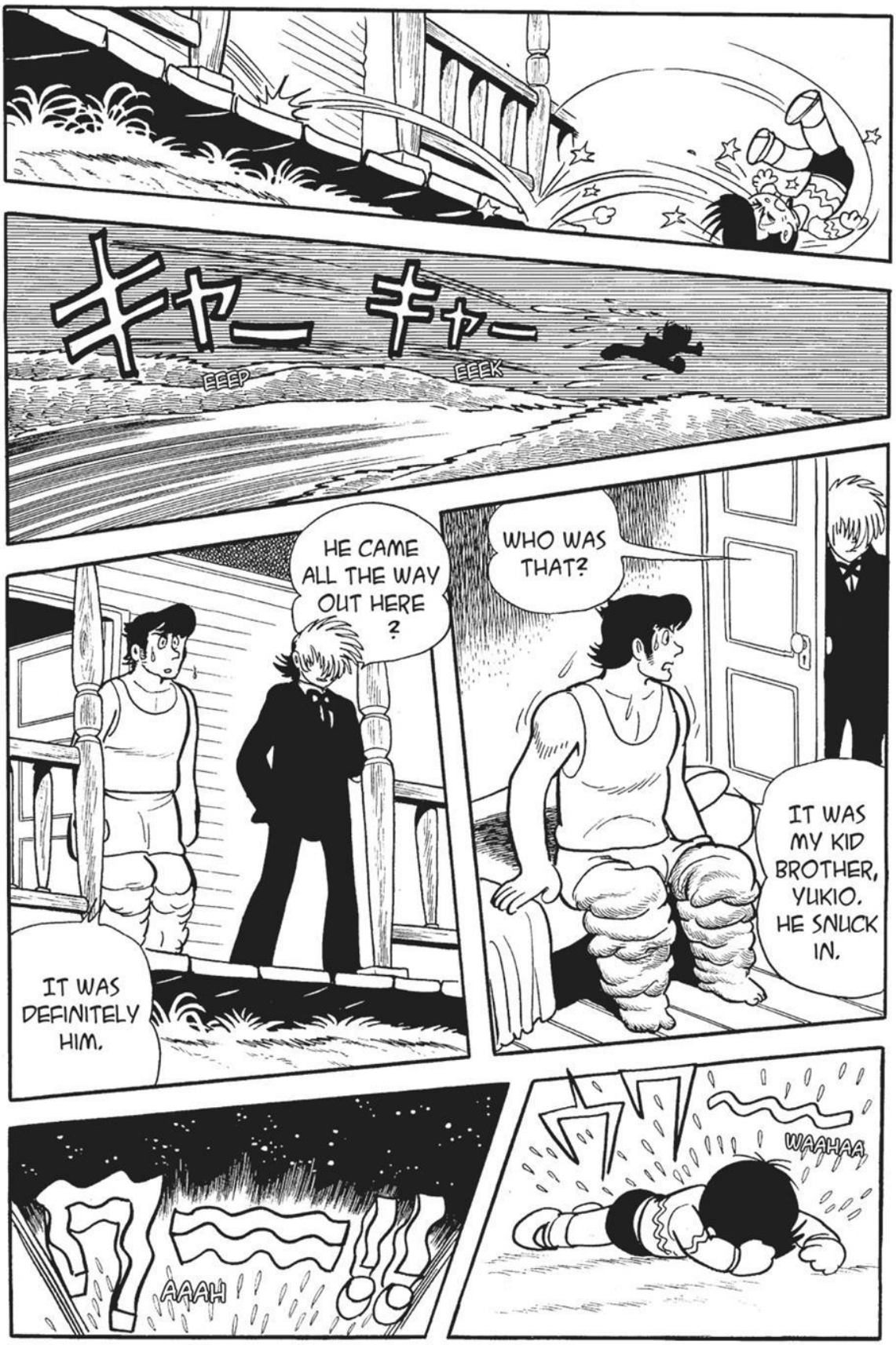
WHATTA CREEPY PLACE!
SO THIS IS HIS EVIL LAIR.
ONCE IT'S DARK I'LL SNEAK INSIDE.

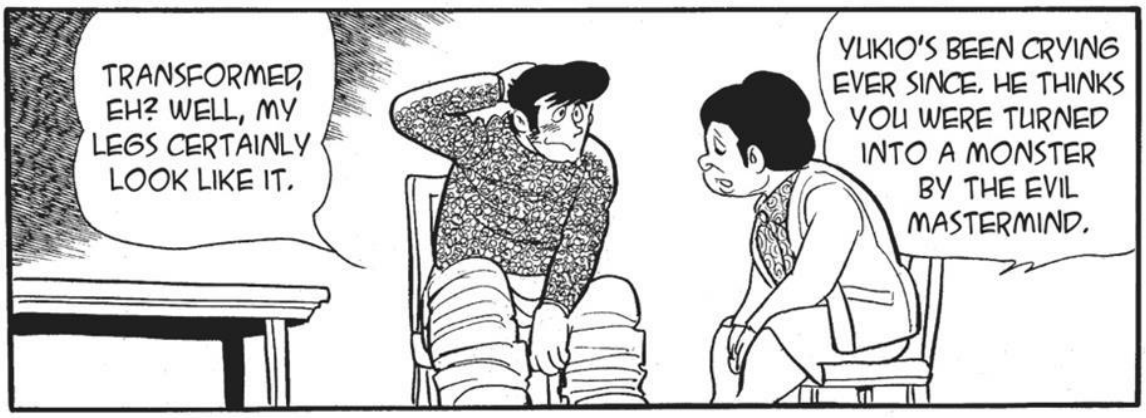
I GOTTA RESCUE MY BROTHER!

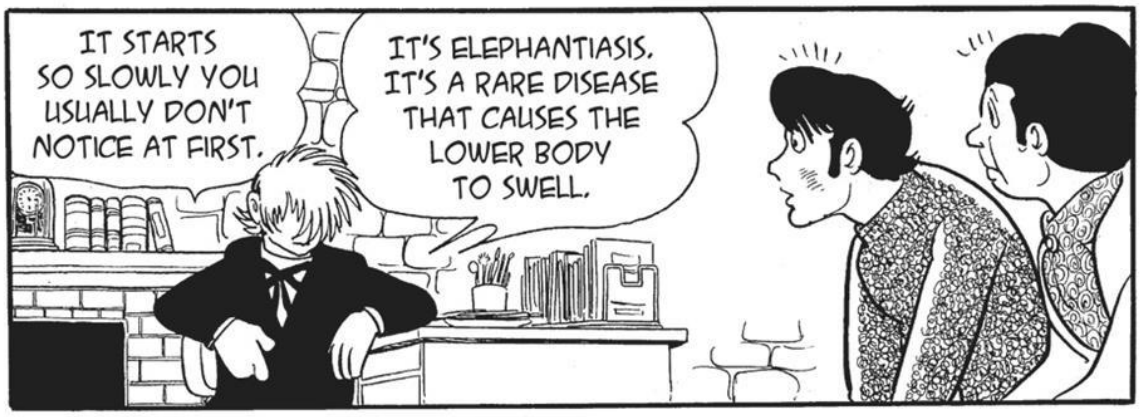
Brother! It's me!


ガチャリキー
KREAK

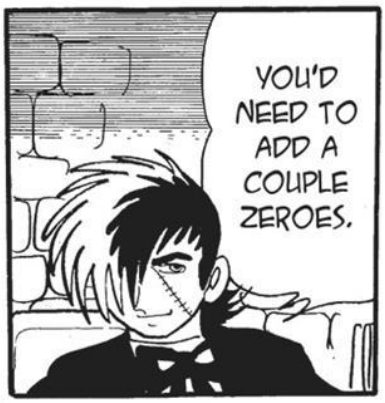

ウキキ
GYAAAA


キャー キャー
EEEP
EEEK
HE CAME ALL THE WAY OUT HERE ?
IT WAS DEFINITELY HIM.
WHO WAS THAT?
IT WAS MY KID BROTHER, YUKIO. HE SNUCK IN.
AAAH
WAAHAA

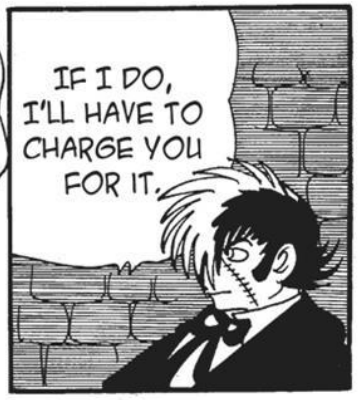

TRANSFORMED, EH? WELL, MY LEGS CERTAINLY LOOK LIKE IT.
YUKIO'S BEEN CRYING EVER SINCE. HE THINKS YOU WERE TURNED INTO A MONSTER BY THE EVIL MASTERMIND.


IT STARTS SO SLOWLY YOU USUALLY DON'T NOTICE AT FIRST.
IT'S ELEPHANTIASIS. IT'S A RARE DISEASE THAT CAUSES THE LOWER BODY TO SWELL.

WILL YOU OPERATE?
THERE ARE MANY CAUSES, BUT IT LOOKS LIKE INFLAMMATION DUE TO INFECTION IN YOUR CASE.


YOU'D NEED TO ADD A COUPLE ZEROES.

NO, MOM, I'LL TAKE A LOAN FROM THE COMPANY.
I'LL GIVE YOU ALL MY SAVINGS.


IF I DO, I'LL HAVE TO CHARGE YOU FOR IT.

LET'S TRY A DIFFERENT DOCTOR.
THANKS FOR YOUR TIME. LET'S GO, TAKAO.

...

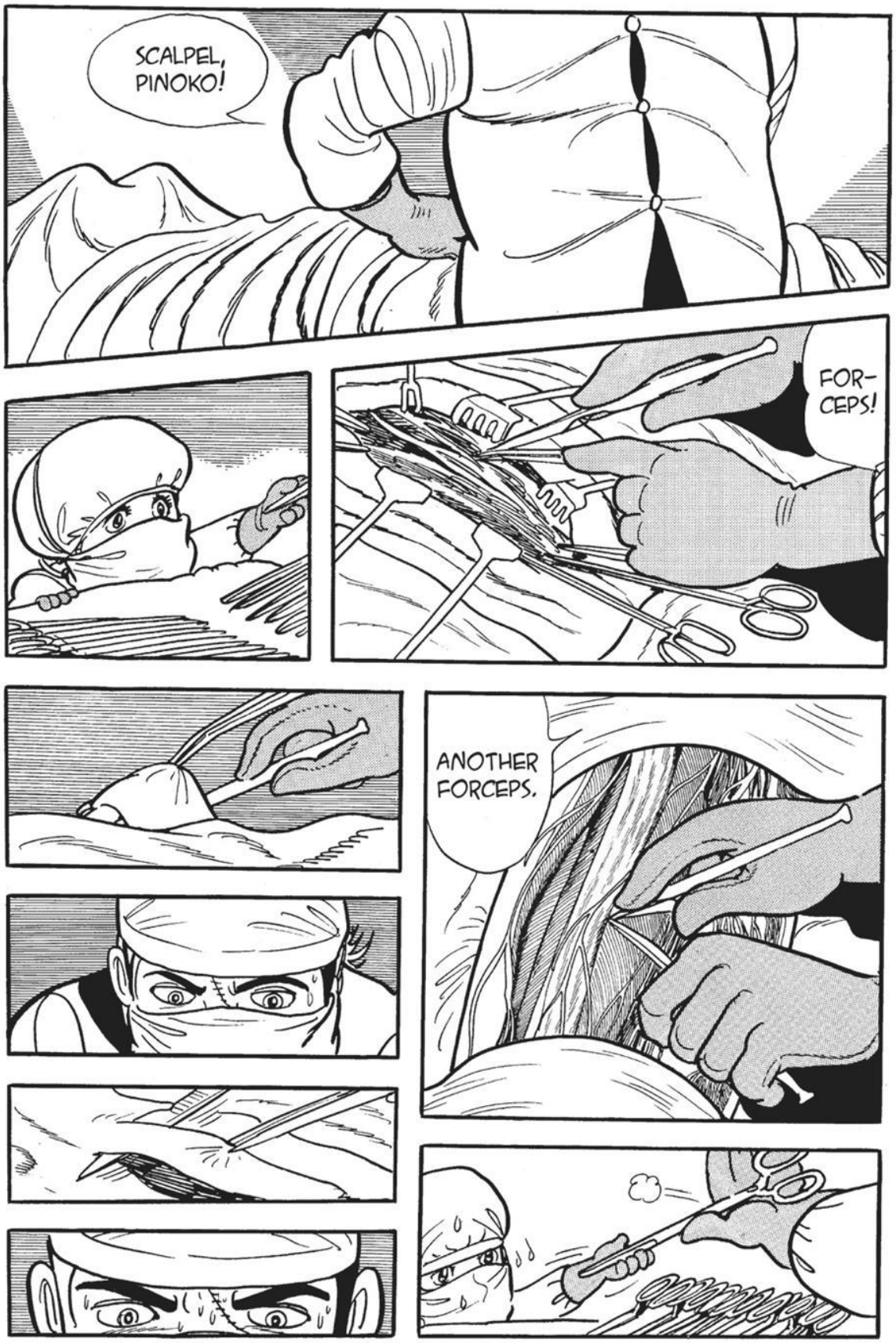
I WANT TO MAKE A DEAL.
WAIT, I DIDN'T SAY THE OPERATION COULDN'T HAPPEN.

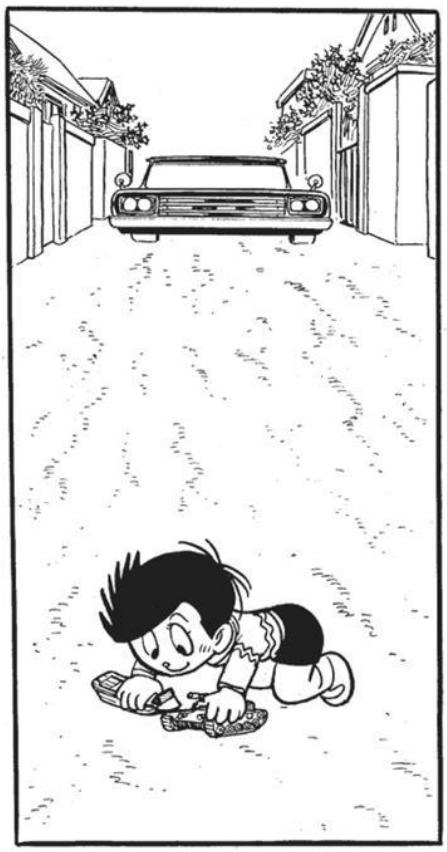
N-NO... DON'T!

SHE SAYS SHE'D GLADLY OPERATE ON GHOLAS. HEH HEH.
MY GIRL PINOKO IS A HUGE FAN OF THE SHOW.

CAN YOU GIVE HER YOUR COSTUME ONCE THE SHOOT IS DONE? IT'D BE WORTH MORE TO HER THAN DIAMONDS.
IN PAY-MENT ...

DO JUST AS I SAY.
YUP.
LET'S BEGIN.
ALL RIGHT ...
WHISK
SYRINGE.


SCALPEL, PINOKO!
FOR-CEPS!
ANOTHER FORCEPS.



THIS IS HARD TO SAY, BUT...

MAKE SURE HE SEES THAT YOU'RE TOTALLY HEALED.
IT'S YUKIO!

HEH HEH.
ALL THE MORE REASON NOT TO HIDE.

HE'S CONVINCED HIMSELF THAT YOU'RE SOME EVIL MASTERMIND.

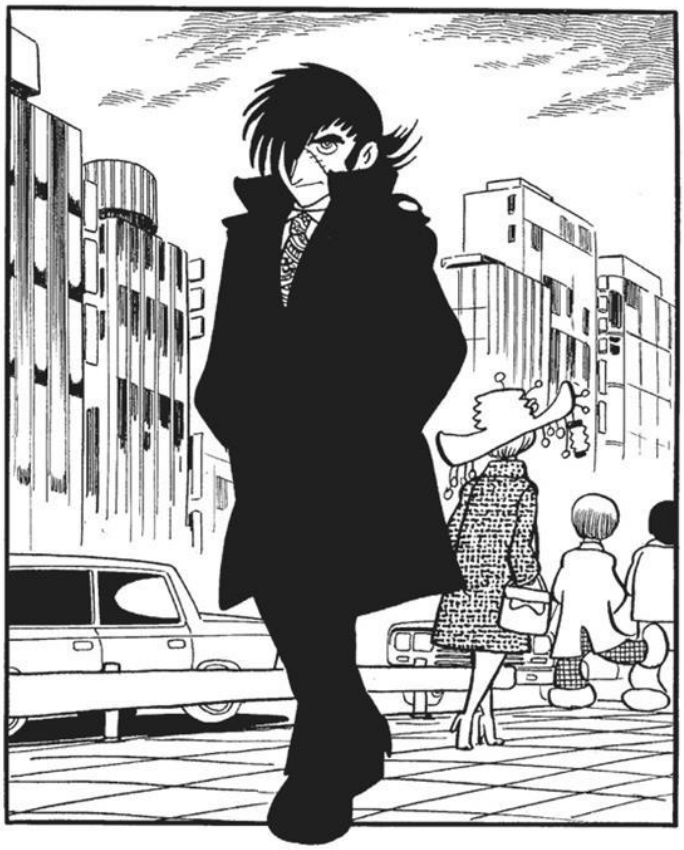
?
PLEASE STAY HIDDEN FROM YUKIO.

TAKAO!
AH!!
DRACULA!!
OH, NO! IT'S HIM! THE EVIL BOSS!
YUKIO, GET BACK!
YOU'RE ALL BETTER!
HISSSSS!
COME ON!

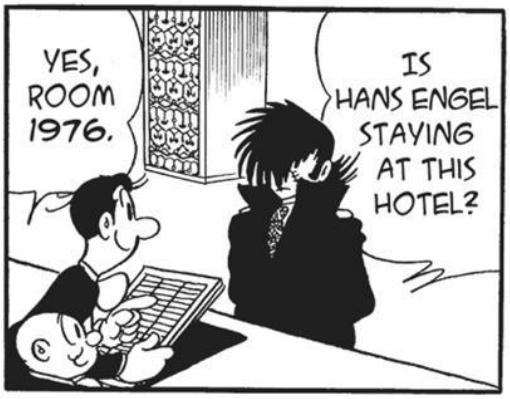
HE GOT ME!
TAKE THAT!
RUN AWAY!!
ARGH!
I KNEW IT. YOU'RE REALLY A GOOD GUY!
YOU BEAT HIM!
YEAH, DIDN'T I TELL YOU?
STOP! YOU COWARD!
...

ANOTHER J

?



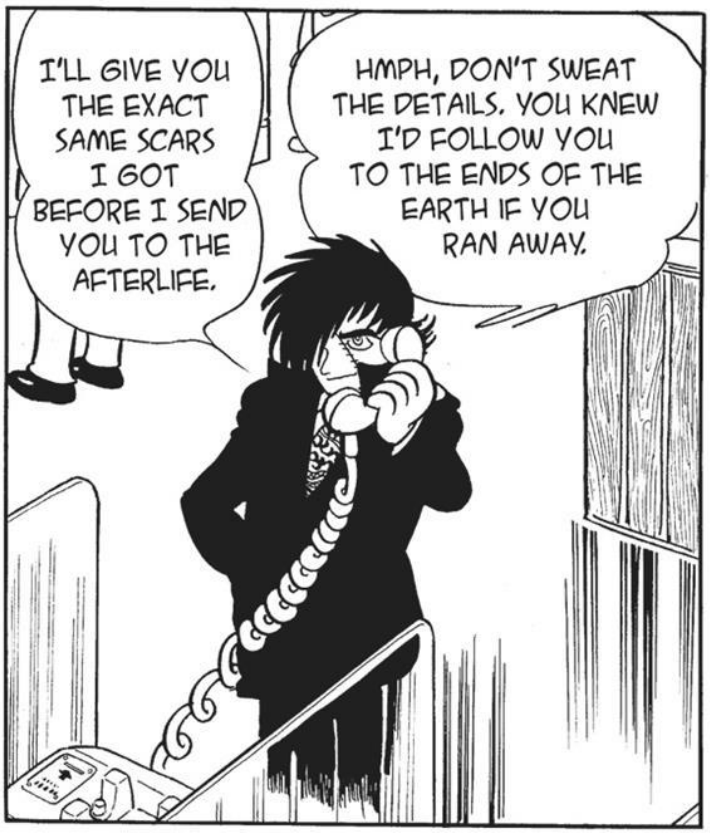
DID I DRAW HIS HAIR WRONG ?


YES, ROOM 1976.
IS HANS ENGEL STAYING AT THIS HOTEL?

HANS, IT'S JONA-THAN.

YEAH?

HOUSE PHONE


I'LL GIVE YOU THE EXACT SAME SCARS I GOT BEFORE I SEND YOU TO THE AFTERLIFE.
HMPH, DON'T SWEAT THE DETAILS. YOU KNEW I'D FOLLOW YOU TO THE ENDS OF THE EARTH IF YOU RAN AWAY.

JONATHAN?!

H-HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN IN JAPAN?

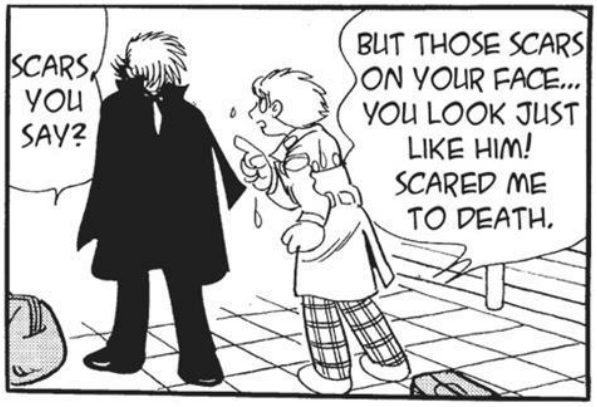
YEAH, I GOT MY SHARE. BUT I HAD TO SPEND IT ALL ON SURGERY FEES!
JONATHAN, I PAID YOU YOUR SHARE. EVERYTHING WAS SETTLED.

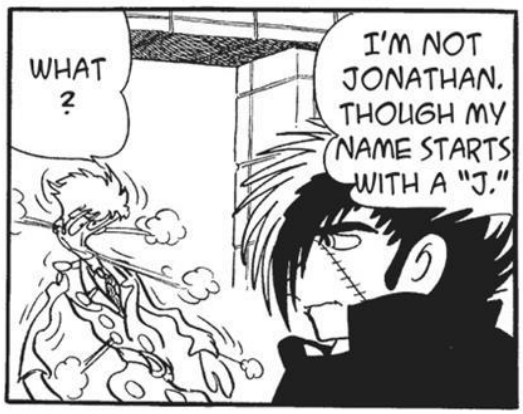
I'D STARTED CHASING YOU TO EXACT REVENGE, AND NOW IT'S THE ONLY THING I RELISH.

AND THAT'S NOT ALL. EMPLOYERS TAKE ONE LOOK AT MY FACE AND REFUSE TO HIRE ME.

IN THE LOBBY OF YOUR HOTEL.
W... WHERE ARE YOU?
BITZY
BUT I WON'T BOTHER YOU NOW. I WANT TO SETTLE THIS SCORE SOMEWHERE NICE AND QUIET. JUST YOU WAIT. HEH HEH.
TELEPHONE
I NEED TO CHECK OUT.
RIGHT NOW.
DASH
Hans
No matter which hotel you move to, you're still a trapped rat.
OH SIR, YOU HAD ROOM 1976? YOU HAVE A MESSAGE.

WHOOSH
GAH! THERE HE IS!!
PLEASE DON'T HURT ME. I'LL DO ANYTHING TO COMPENSATE YOU. LET ME GO.
JONATHAN!
WHAT'RE YOU BABBLING ABOUT?

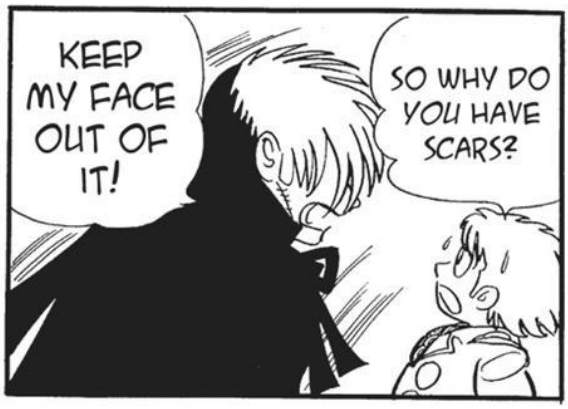

SCARS, YOU SAY?
BUT THOSE SCARS ON YOUR FACE... YOU LOOK JUST LIKE HIM! SCARED ME TO DEATH.


WHAT ?
I'M NOT JONATHAN, THOUGH MY NAME STARTS WITH A "J."

MODERN PLASTIC SURGERY METHODS SHOULD LEAVE NO VISIBLE SCARRING.
HE MUST'VE HAD A PRETTY TERRIBLE SURGEON.

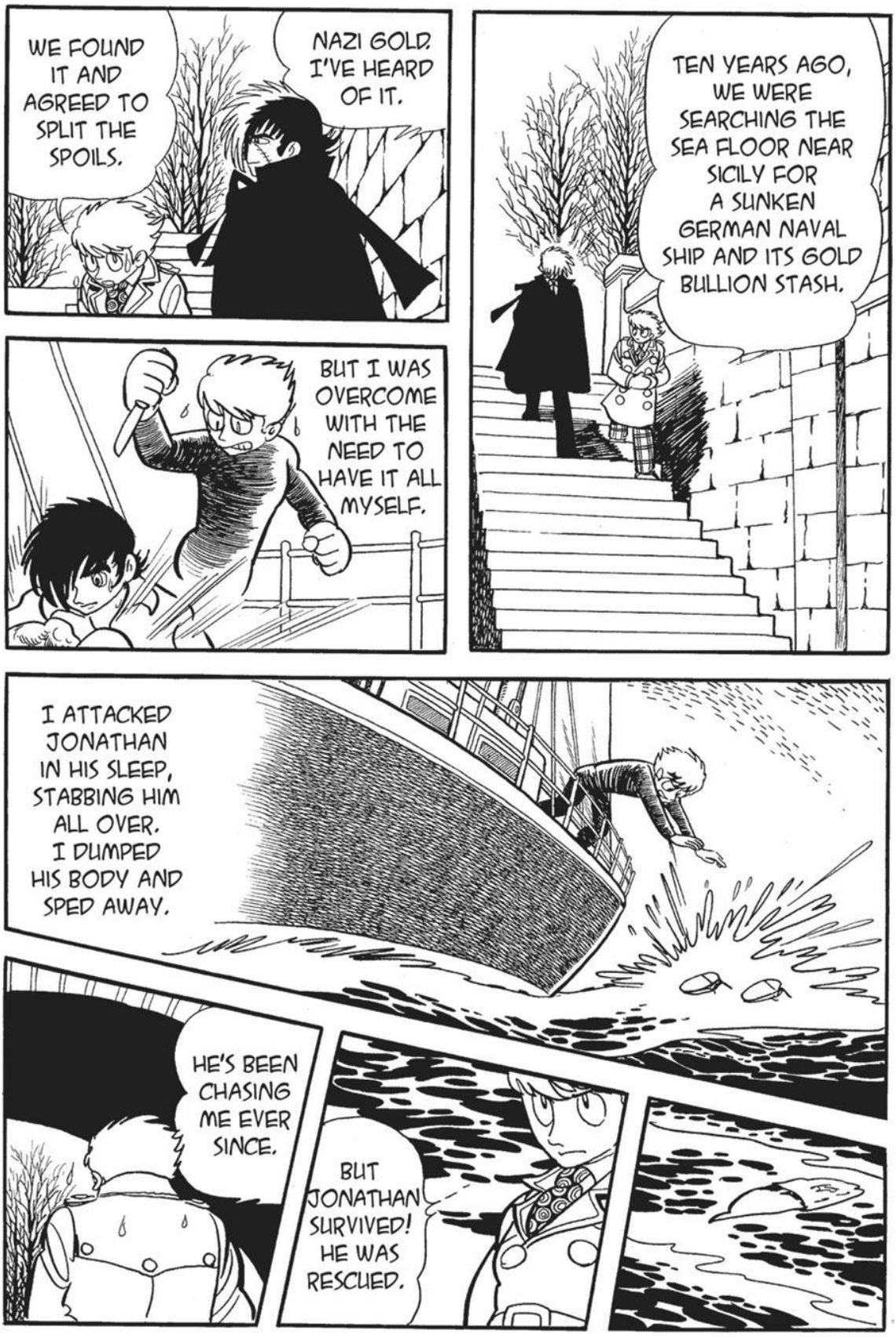
YEAH, LIKE A PATCHWORK. JUST LIKE HIM.

...SORRY.


KEEP MY FACE OUT OF IT!
SO WHY DO YOU HAVE SCARS?

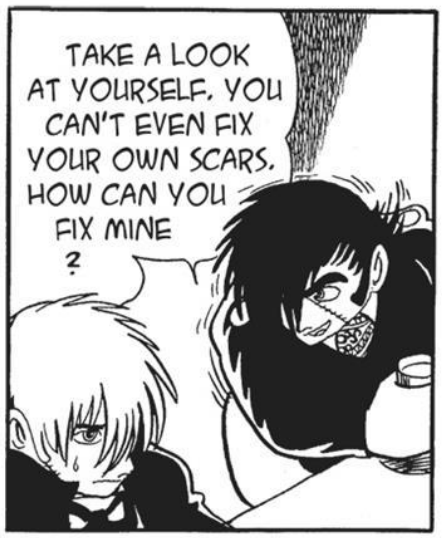
I WANT TO KNOW.
WHY ARE YOU RUNNING FROM HIM?

YOU SAID HE LOOKS JUST LIKE ME?


WE FOUND IT AND AGREED TO SPLIT THE SPOILS.
NAZI GOLD. I'VE HEARD OF IT.
TEN YEARS AGO, WE WERE SEARCHING THE SEA FLOOR NEAR SICILY FOR A SUNKEN GERMAN NAVAL SHIP AND ITS GOLD BULLION STASH.
BUT I WAS OVERCOME WITH THE NEED TO HAVE IT ALL MYSELF.
I ATTACKED JONATHAN IN HIS SLEEP, STABBING HIM ALL OVER. I DUMPED HIS BODY AND SPED AWAY.
HE'S BEEN CHASING ME EVER SINCE.
BUT JONATHAN SURVIVED! HE WAS RESCUED.

YES. HE WANTS TO CUT ME WHERE I CUT HIM, THEN KILL ME.
HE WANTS TO KILL YOU?
BUT HE'S HELL-BENT ON REVENGE.
I SENT HIM HALF THE MONEY.
WILL YOU GIVE ME THAT GOLD?
IF I GET JONATHAN TO LEAVE YOU ALONE,
DO YOU HAVE ANY GOLD LEFT?
BRR DA BREE DOO WAH DOO WAH
I SEE. WE REALLY DO LOOK ALIKE.

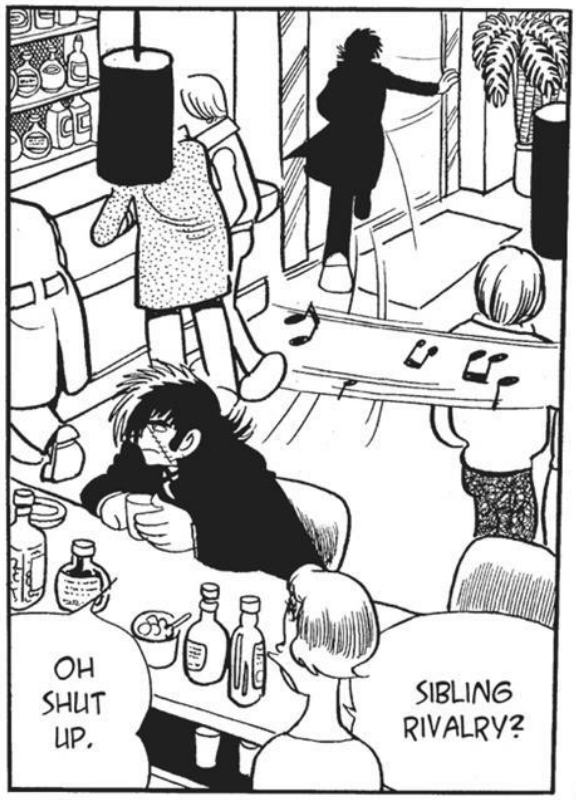
ARE YOU JONATHAN?
YOU'RE ONE TO TALK.
WHAT AWFUL SCARS.
WHAT'S IT TO YOU?
I FEEL COMPELLED TO INTERFERE WHEN I SEE SCARS LIKE YOURS.
I'M BLACK JACK, A SURGEON.
HA HA
HEH
LET ME OPERATE ON YOU. I'LL GET RID OF THE SCARS.


TAKE A LOOK AT YOURSELF. YOU CAN'T EVEN FIX YOUR OWN SCARS. HOW CAN YOU FIX MINE ?

HA HA HA
HA HA HA

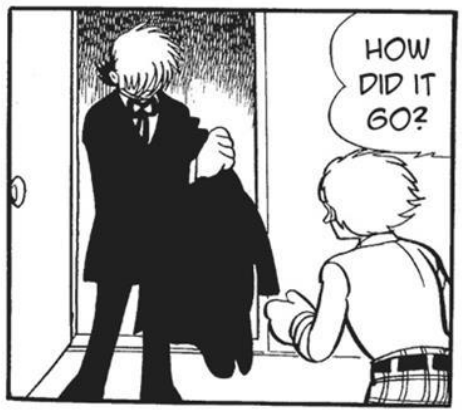
IT'S DISRUPTIVE FOR MY BUSINESS IF THERE'S A GUY WHO LOOKS JUST LIKE ME LOITERING AROUND.
LET ME BE FRANK.

GET LOST, PAL.

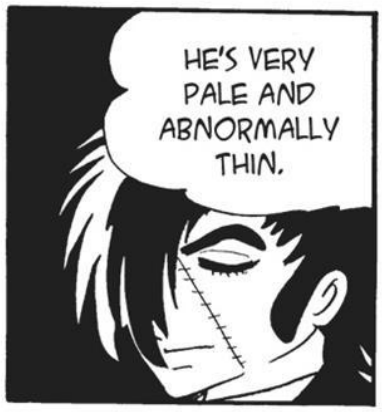

OH SHUT UP.
SIBLING RIVALRY?

YOU LOOKIN' FOR A FIGHT, PAL?

I'LL RESPOND TO YOU LATER.
TOO MANY PEOPLE HERE.

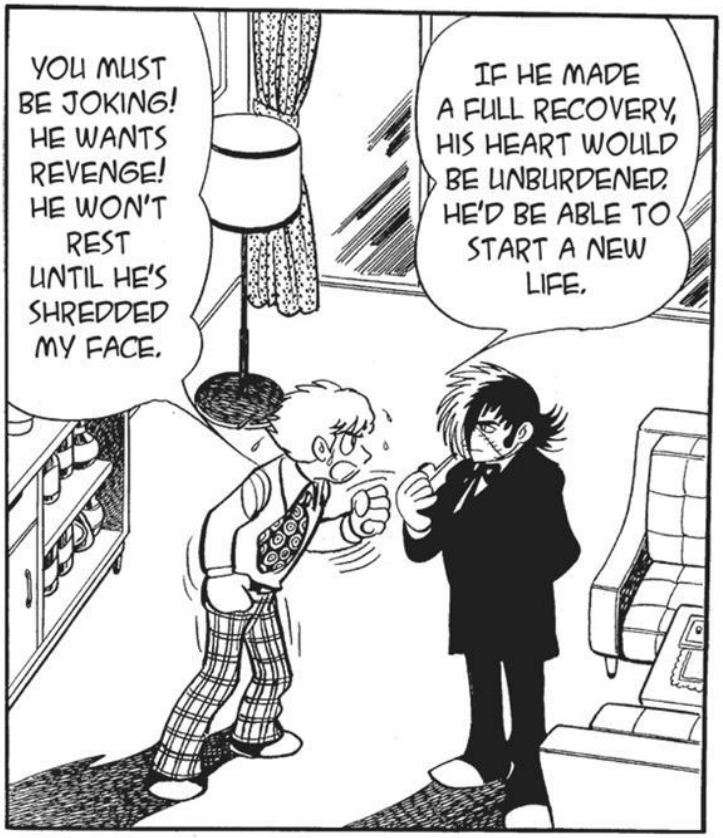

HOW DID IT GO?

DID YOU MEET JONATHAN, DOCTOR?


HE'S VERY PALE AND ABNORMALLY THIN.

ILL? HOW?

THE MAN IS ILL.


YOU MUST BE JOKING! HE WANTS REVENGE! HE WON'T REST UNTIL HE'S SHREDDED MY FACE.
IF HE MADE A FULL RECOVERY, HIS HEART WOULD BE UNBURDENED. HE'D BE ABLE TO START A NEW LIFE.

FIRST I'D HAVE TO CURE THE UNDER-LYING DISEASE.
SOME ILLNESSES MAKE IT HARD FOR SCARS TO HEAL.

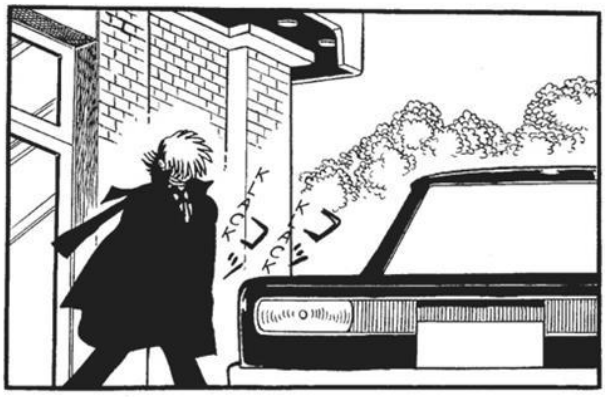
YOU WANT TO FIX HIS SCARS ?!

IT'S NO USE.

FINE.

IF I SUCCEED, YOU MUST PAY ME. DON'T FORGET.

ブロロロ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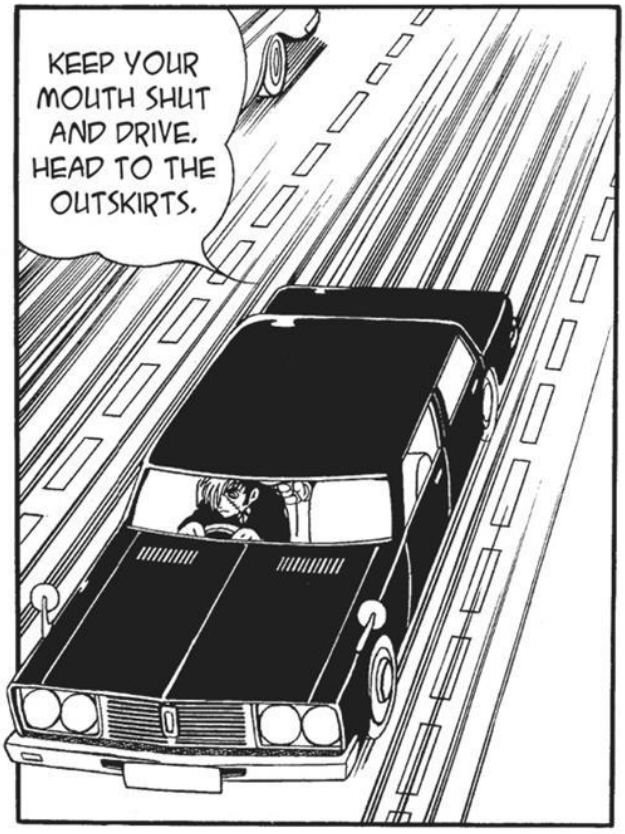
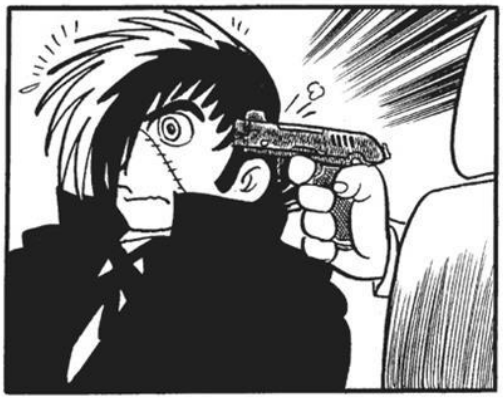
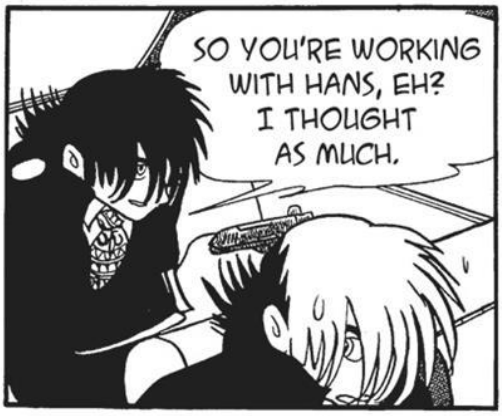
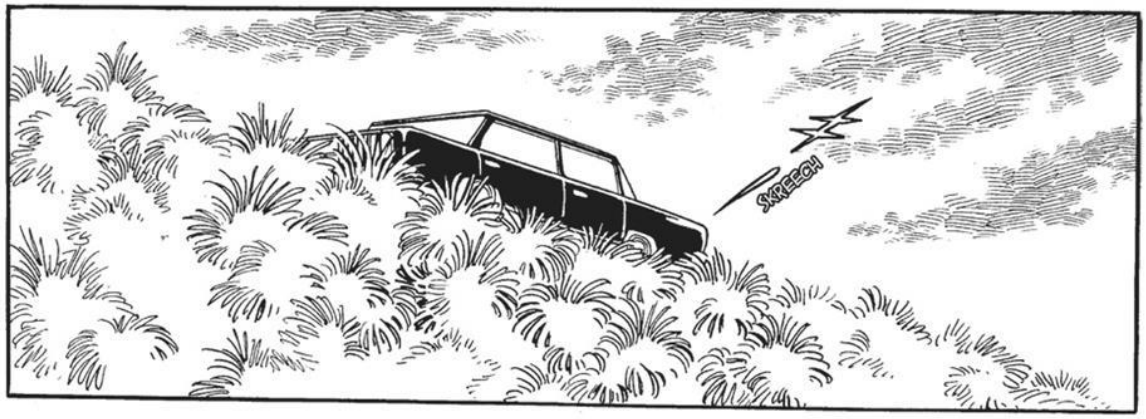
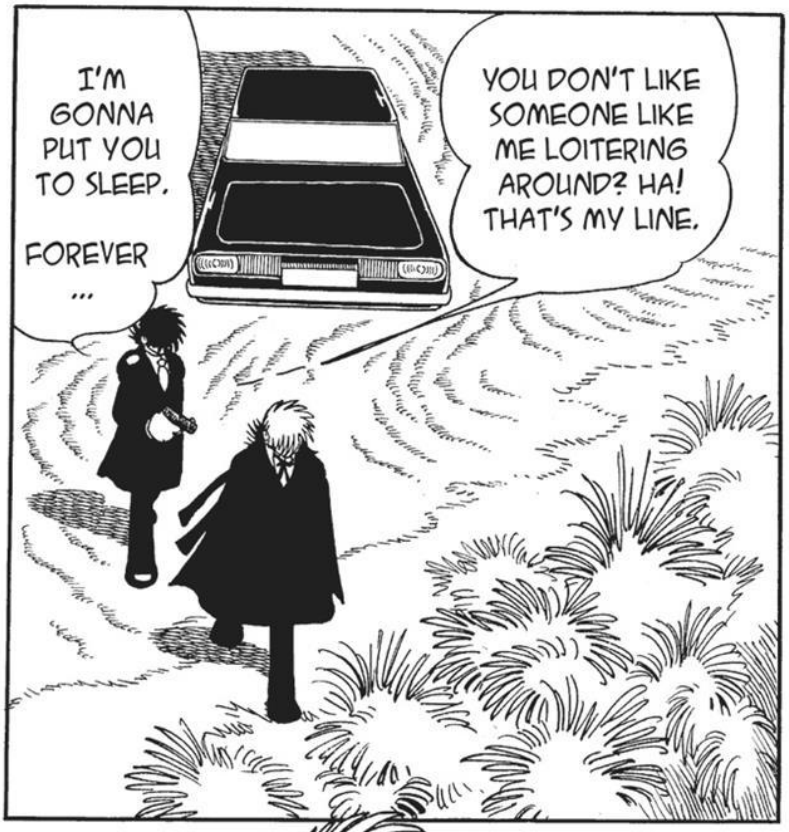

KEEP YOUR MOUTH SHUT AND DRIVE. HEAD TO THE OUTSKIRTS.



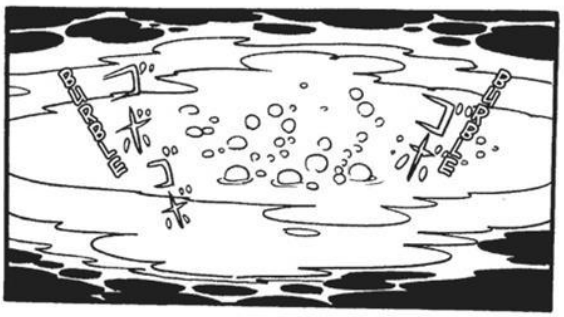

SO YOU'RE WORKING WITH HANS, EH? I THOUGHT AS MUCH.


SCREECH

STAND BY THAT POND.


I'M GONNA PUT YOU TO SLEEP.
FOREVER ...
YOU DON'T LIKE SOMEONE LIKE ME LOITERING AROUND? HA! THAT'S MY LINE.

BLAM

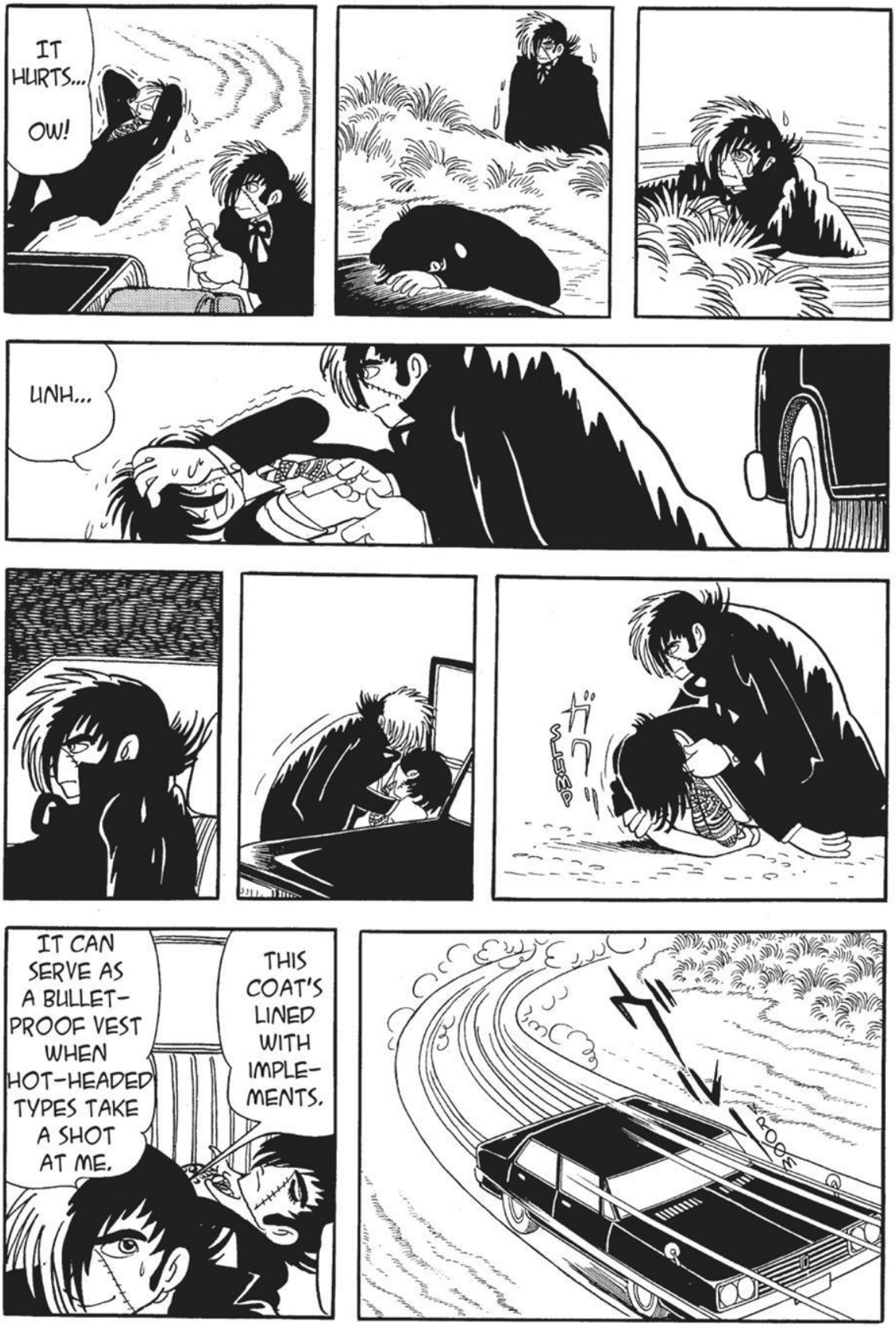


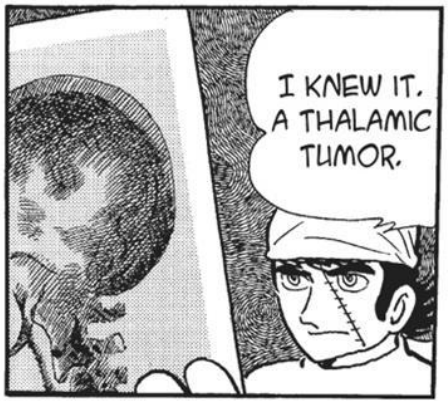
...

UNH!

UNH... OW...
UHH...

UGH, IT HURTS...
I'M DIZZY...
O-OW... THE PAIN...
IT'S BACK AGAIN!


IT HURTS...
OW!
UNH...
ガク
SLUMP
IT CAN SERVE AS A BULLET-PROOF VEST WHEN HOT-HEADED TYPES TAKE A SHOT AT ME.
THIS COAT'S LINED WITH IMPLE-MENTS.
ROOR

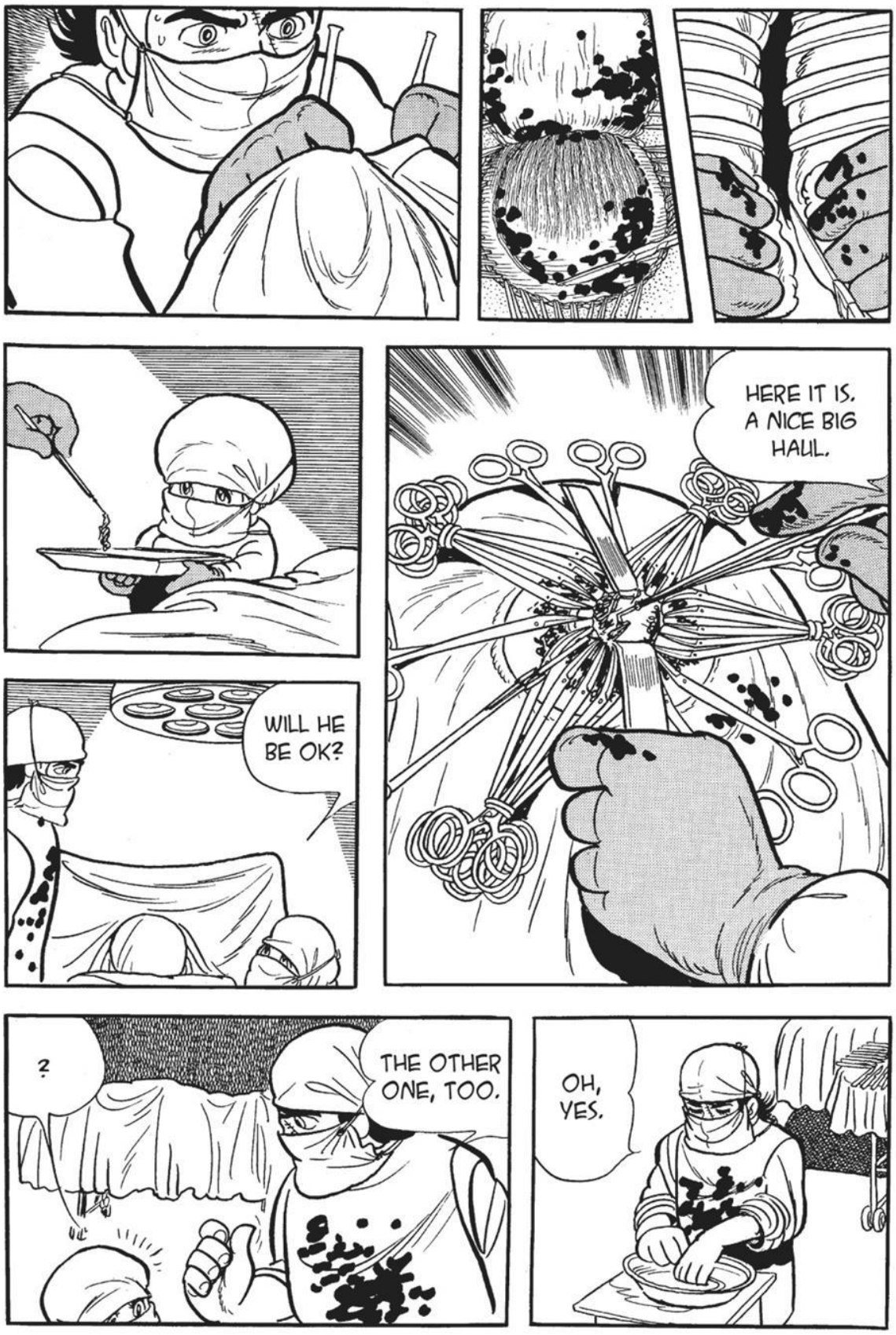

I KNEW IT. A THALAMIC TUMOR.

JONATHAN LIVING-STON SEAGULL.
THAT MUST BE WHY HIS SCARS HEALED SO POORLY. I'LL FIX YOU,

IT'S PRESSING ON THE PITUITARY GLAND, CAUSING HYPOPITUI-TARISM.

HE LOOKS LIKE YOU, DOCTOR.

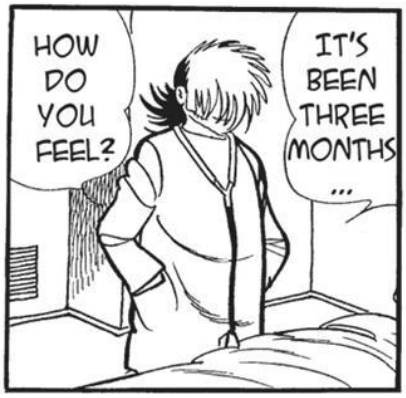
I'M ABOUT TO CHANGE THAT.


HERE IT IS. A NICE BIG HAUL.
WILL HE BE OK?
?
THE OTHER ONE, TOO.
OH, YES.

...

YOU CAN CURE MY BODY, BUT YOU'LL NEVER CHANGE MY HEART.
SCREW YOU!

START A NEW LIFE.
GIVE UP ON HANS.


HOW DO YOU FEEL?
IT'S BEEN THREE MONTHS ...

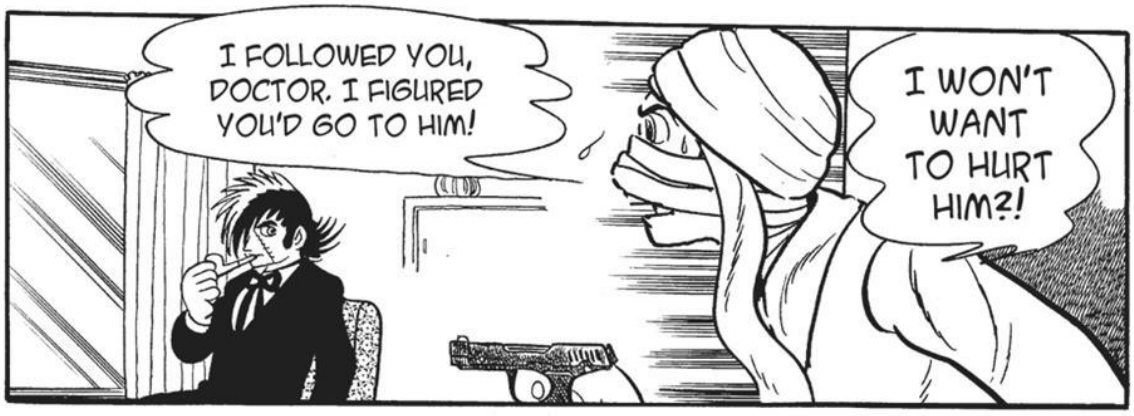
ブウウウ
VROOM

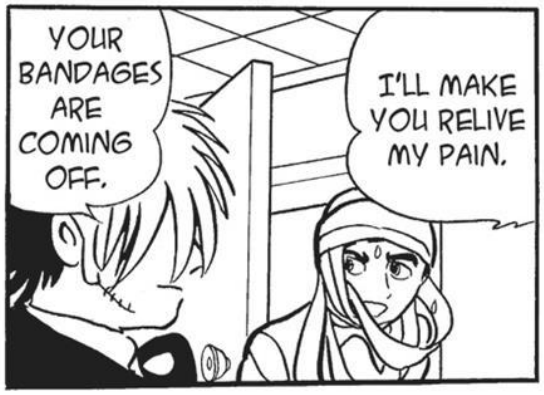
I'LL HAVE MY REVENGE ON HANS!

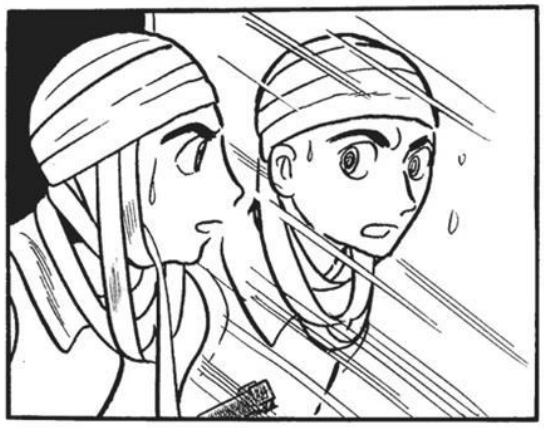
HOW SPITEFUL OF YOU.

SO GIVE ME THAT GOLD.
YES. HE WON'T WANT TO HURT YOU ANYMORE.

YOU CURED HIM?!


I FOLLOWED YOU, DOCTOR. I FIGURED YOU'D GO TO HIM!
I WON'T WANT TO HURT HIM?!


YOUR BANDAGES ARE COMING OFF.
I'LL MAKE YOU RELIVE MY PAIN.



I'VE BEEN WAITING FOR THIS DAY, HANS. I'LL...
JONATHAN!

HANS PAID YOUR MEDICAL BILLS.

AH!

WHY DID YOU CURE ME? WHY DID YOU MAKE ME WHOLE AGAIN? FOOL...

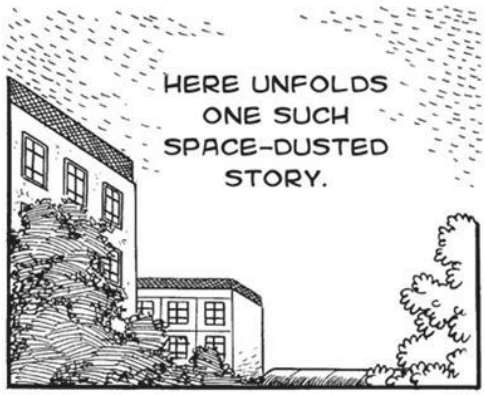
HANS! MY GRUDGE AGAINST YOU IS...
BAM
WHAT HAVE YOU DONE?

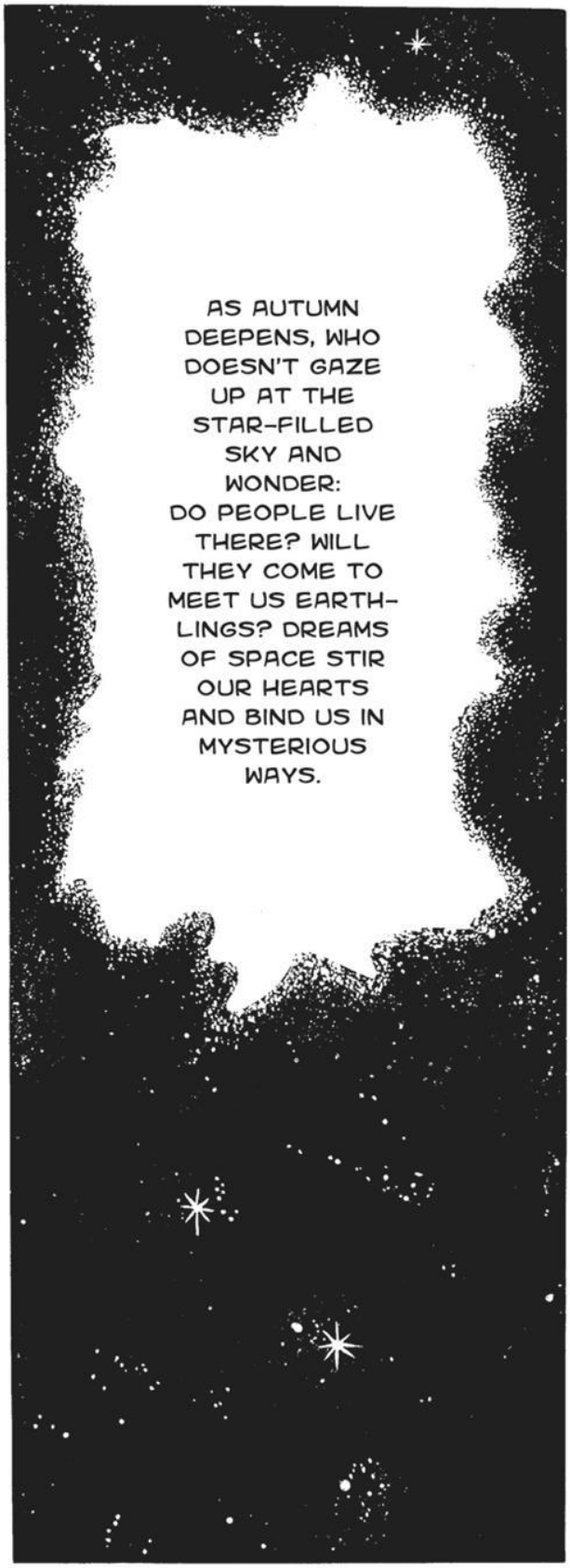
WHAT, ARE YOU THAT ANGRY OVER BECOMING HANDSOME?

BRING ME A MILLION DOLLARS AND I'LL OBLIGE YOU.
WANT YOUR SCARS BACK?

"SOB"
"SOB"

GLEAMY EYES





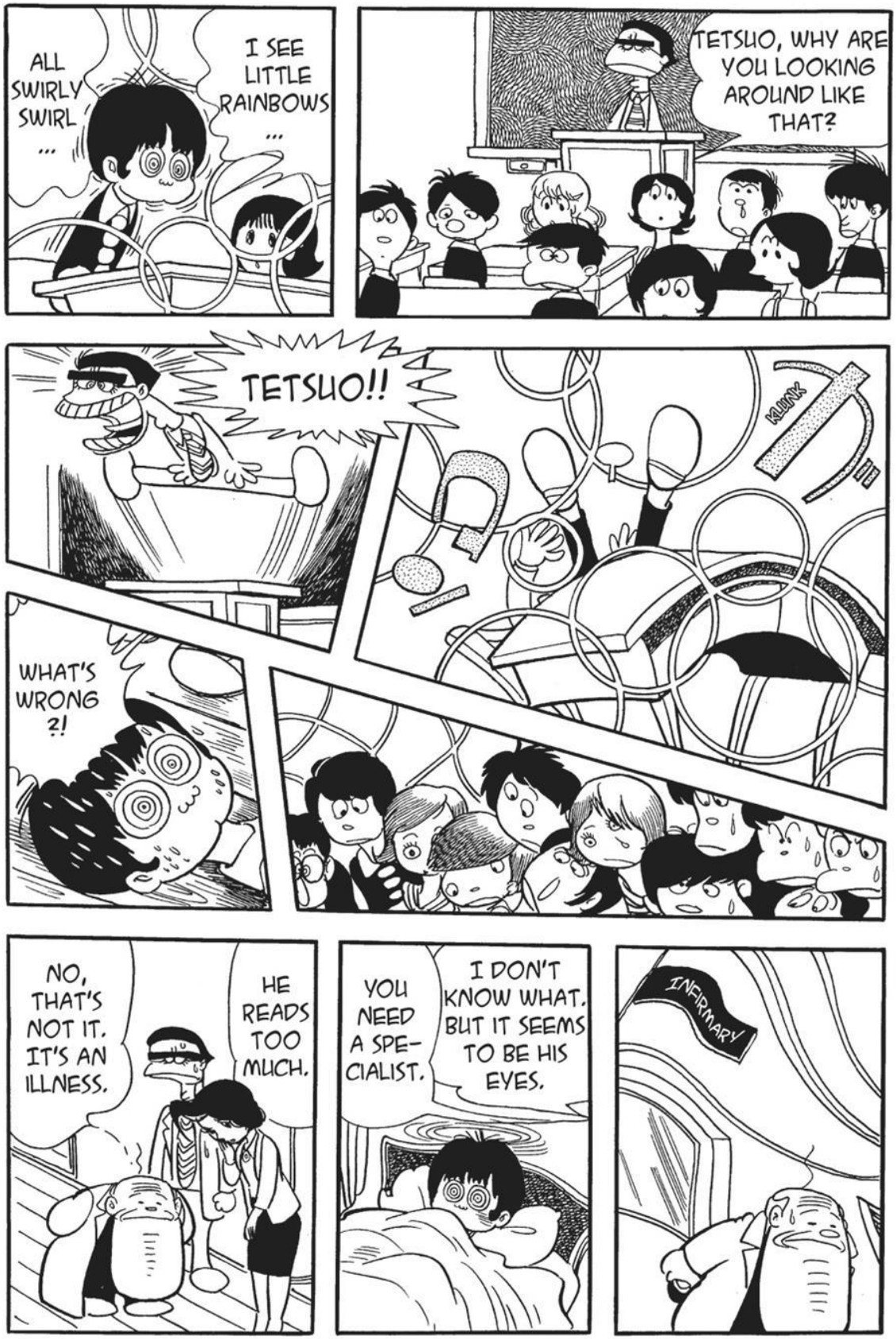
NOTE: THE ORIGINAL TITLE OF THE STORY IS "HIKARU ME"—GLEAMY EYES—WHICH WAS ALSO THE TITLE USED IN JAPAN FOR THE FILM *VILLAGE OF THE DAMNED.*

WE'RE BEST BUDDIES, AREN'T WE?
WE JUST WANNA BE FRIENDS!
YOU TRYING TO SNEAK HOME EARLY AND AVOID US?
AND YOU NEVER PAY ME BACK.
UH... IT'S FOR ME TO BUY A BOOK ON UFO'S.
YOU GOT POCKET MONEY TODAY, DIDN'T YA.
SINCE WE ARE, YOU'LL LEND ME CASH, YEAH?
IS THAT HOW YOU'RE GONNA BE?
YOU'RE NOT GONNA LEND IT TO ME? MEANIE.
I'LL PAY IT ALL BACK ONE DAY!
YIPE!
SHOOP

NO, PLEASE!
DROP YOUR SHORTS.
HAND IT OVER FASTER, YOU DUM-MY.
AND STOP READING DUMB BOOKS ABOUT ALIENS AND UFO'S.
I'M SORRY! HERE, TAKE MY MONEY! GIVE ME MY BELT!
WHIP
LOOK, SOME GIRLS ARE COMING! DROP 'EM, OR ELSE!

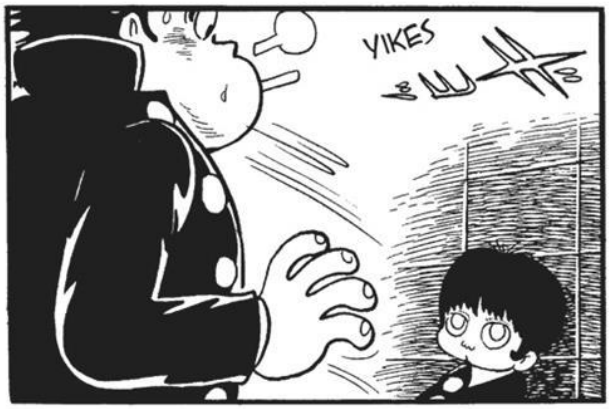
OH? WHAT ARE YOU DOING IN THE DARK?
DINNER, TETSU.
NOO!
I'M TURNING ON THE LIGHT.
YOU NEED TO TOUGHEN UP A LITTLE, TETSU.
DID SOMEONE BULLY YOU AGAIN?
WERE YOU CRYING?
WHAT HAPPENED?
COME EAT YOUR DINNER!
ALIENS, SHEESH.
...
SHUT THE LIGHT! I WAS TALKING TO THE ALIENS!

ALIENS ARE ALREADY HERE ON EARTH
IF YOU CAN HEAR MY TELEPATHY, COME DOWN AND HELP ME.
O UFO, UFO, SPACE PEOPLE, ALIENS!
?
AND AID THE JUST WHO CALL TO THEM, THE BOOK SAID...
MORON
HE'S A BOOKWORM AND HE'S WEAK. THAT'S WHY HE GETS PICKED ON AT SCHOOL.
TETSUO READS ALL THE TIME. HE'S A SMART KID.
HE'S NUTS OVER FLYING SAUCERS.
IT'S THE SAME!
HA! WELL, IT'S BETTER THAN BENDING SPOONS OR A OUIJA BOARD.
HE THINKS THERE ARE ALIENS.
HE ONLY BUYS SCI-FI BOOKS.

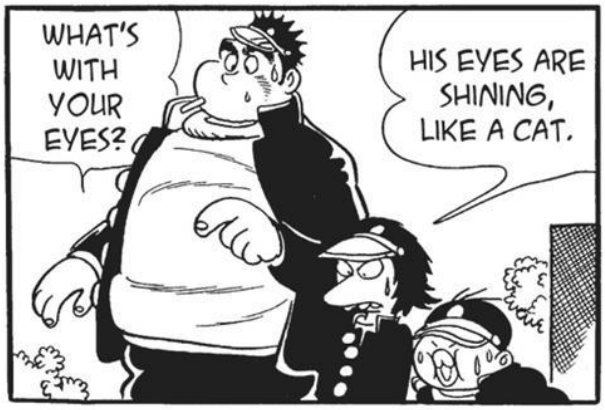

ALL SWIRLY SWIRL ...
I SEE LITTLE RAINBOWS ...
TETSUO, WHY ARE YOU LOOKING AROUND LIKE THAT?
TETSUO!!
KLUNK
WHAT'S WRONG ?!
NO, THAT'S NOT IT. IT'S AN ILLNESS.
HE READS TOO MUCH.
YOU NEED A SPE-CIALIST.
I DON'T KNOW WHAT. BUT IT SEEMS TO BE HIS EYES.
INFIRMARY

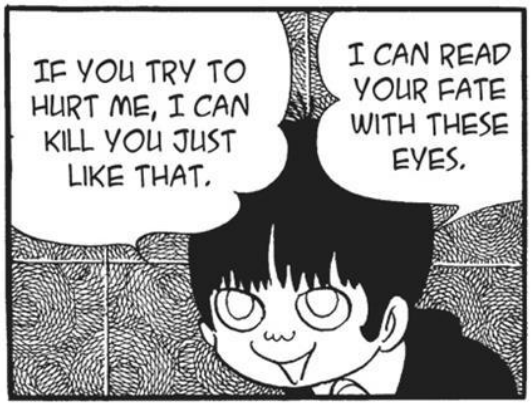
HE HAS OCULAR TENSION. HE NEEDS TO KEEP SEEING A DOC-TOR.
WHAT DID THE EYE DOC SAY?
MY HEAD HURTS...
ARE YOU IN PAIN?
HE CAN'T SLEEP.
OW... IT HURTS ...
AAAH!

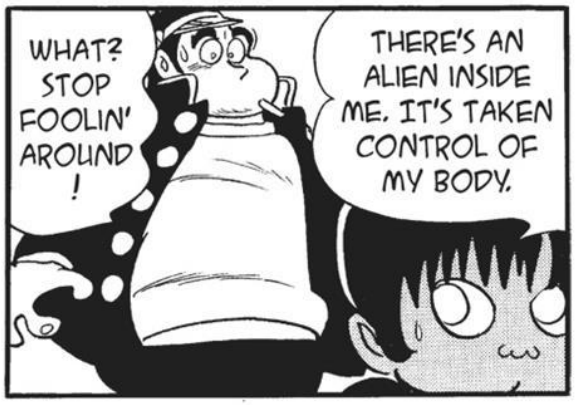
YOUR EYES ...
REALLY, THEY'RE GLOWING ?
THEY'RE GLOW-ING... IN THE DARK...
WHAT'S WRONG WITH THEM?
HEH HEH.
WHAT'RE YOU SAYING? DON'T BE CREEPY.
THEY'VE TAKEN OVER MY BODY.
THAT MEANS THE SPACE PEOPLE ARE HERE.
I CAN'T JUST LEAVE YOU LIKE THAT!
IT'S A SECRET!
I SWORE TO THE ALIENS!
NO!!
I'LL PHONE THE DOC—


YIKES

I WANT YOU TO LEND ME SOME CASH AGAIN, TETSUO.


WHAT'S WITH YOUR EYES?
HIS EYES ARE SHINING, LIKE A CAT.


IF YOU TRY TO HURT ME, I CAN KILL YOU JUST LIKE THAT.
I CAN READ YOUR FATE WITH THESE EYES.


WHAT? STOP FOOLIN' AROUND!
THERE'S AN ALIEN INSIDE ME. IT'S TAKEN CONTROL OF MY BODY.

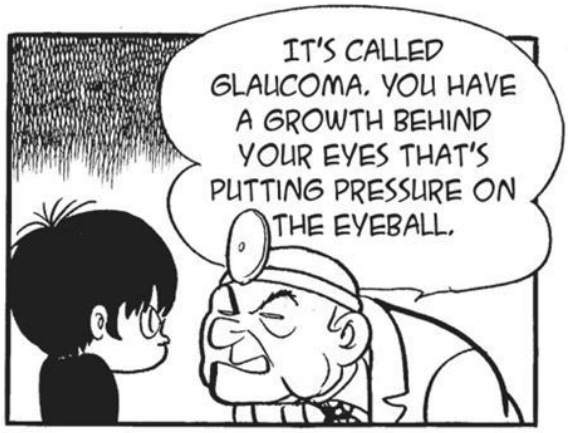
YOU'RE MAD!

DO YOU WANT TO DIE?
I'LL TWIST YOU IN HALF IN AN INSTANT.

SHUT YOUR CRAZY MOUTH!

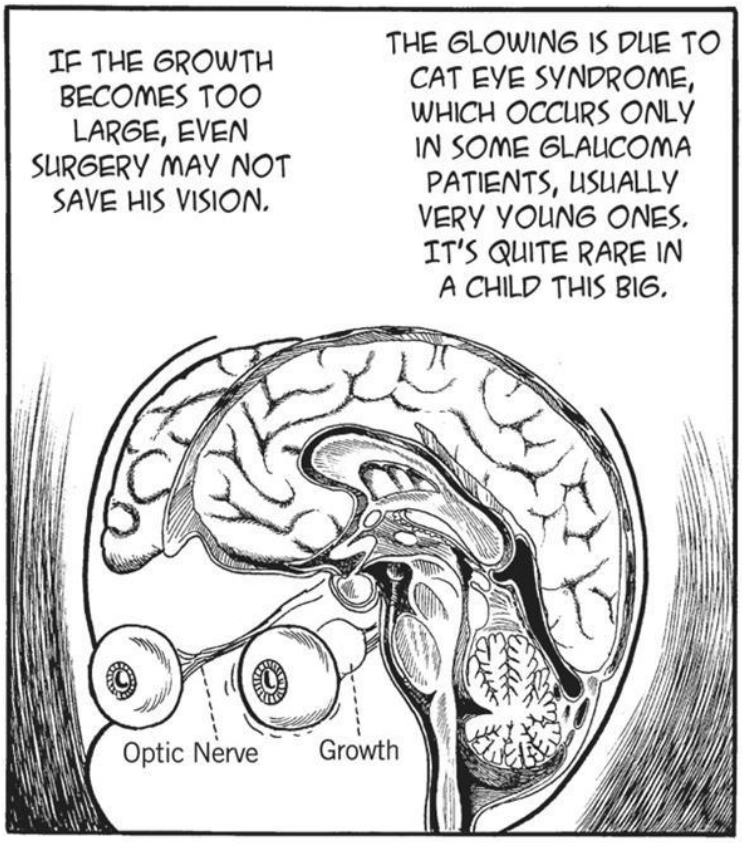
NOTE: THE FIGURE IN THE BOTTOM-LEFT PANEL IS ZATOICHI, THE BLIND SWORDSMAN FROM THE CELEBRATED FILM SERIES.

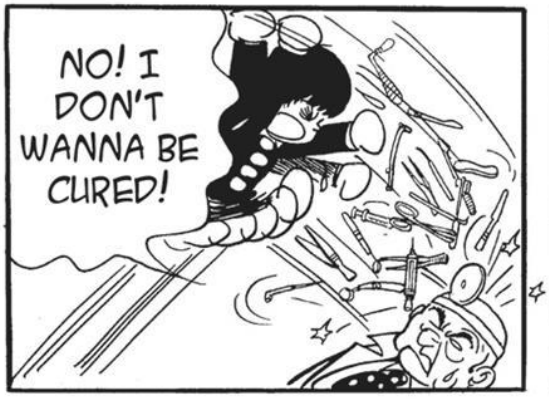
NO! IT'S THE ALIENS!
DID YOU SEE SOMETHING LIKE A RAINBOW AT FIRST? THAT'S ONE OF THE SYMPTOMS.

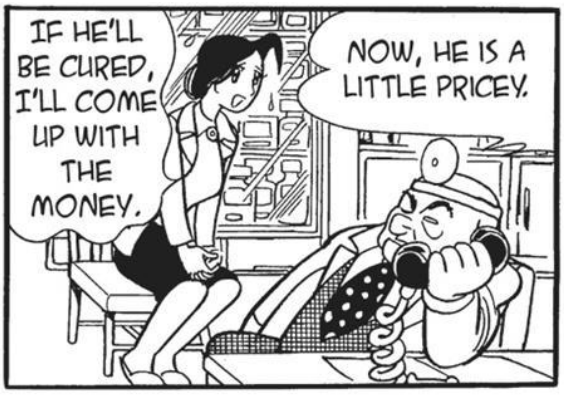

IT'S CALLED GLAUCOMA. YOU HAVE A GROWTH BEHIND YOUR EYES THAT'S PUTTING PRESSURE ON THE EYEBALL.

DOCTOR! PLEASE MAKE HIM BETTER ...

I KNOW A VERY GOOD SURGEON. I'LL REFER YOU.


IF THE GROWTH BECOMES TOO LARGE, EVEN SURGERY MAY NOT SAVE HIS VISION.
THE GLOWING IS DUE TO CAT EYE SYNDROME, WHICH OCCURS ONLY IN SOME GLAUCOMA PATIENTS, USUALLY VERY YOUNG ONES. IT'S QUITE RARE IN A CHILD THIS BIG.
Optic Nerve
Growth

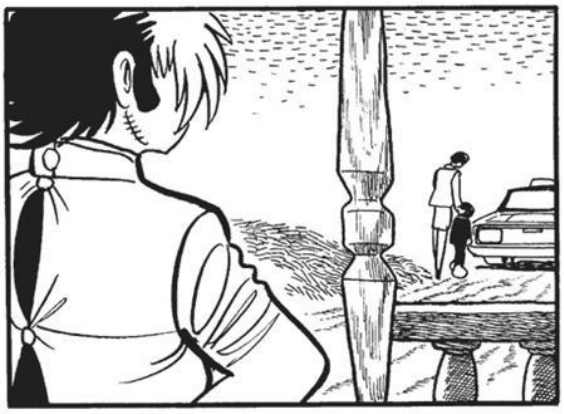

NO! I DON'T WANNA BE CURED!

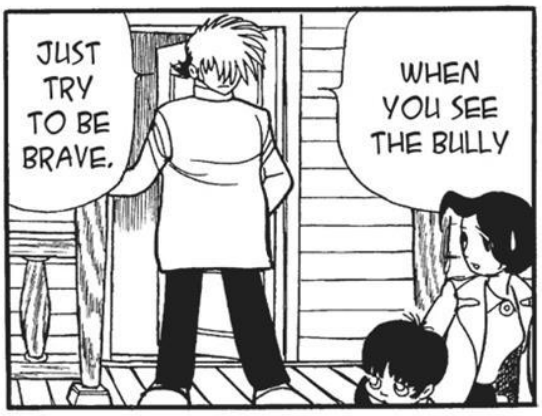

IF HE'LL BE CURED, I'LL COME UP WITH THE MONEY.
NOW, HE IS A LITTLE PRICEY.

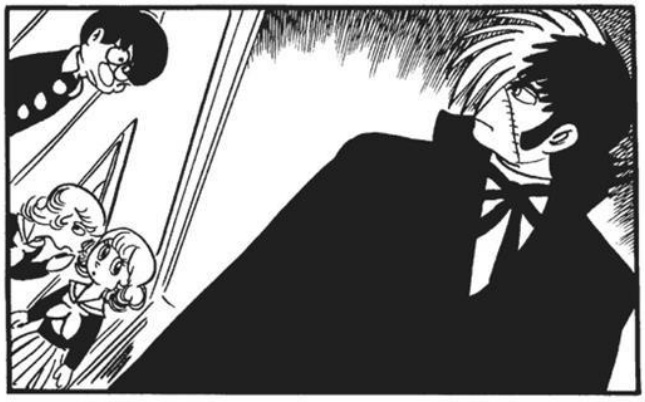
NO-O-O! THE ALIENS MADE MY EYES GLOW !!
DOC-TOR ...
IF I'M CURED HE'LL BEAT ME UP AGAIN.
AS LONG AS MY EYES GLOW, I CAN SCARE OFF THE BULLY.
YOU REALLY WANT TO BE BLIND?!
STOP ACTING SPOILED!
YOU HEARD HIM. THAT'S THE TRUTH.

BUT I'M GOING TO CURE YOUR EYES.
OKAY, I GET IT.

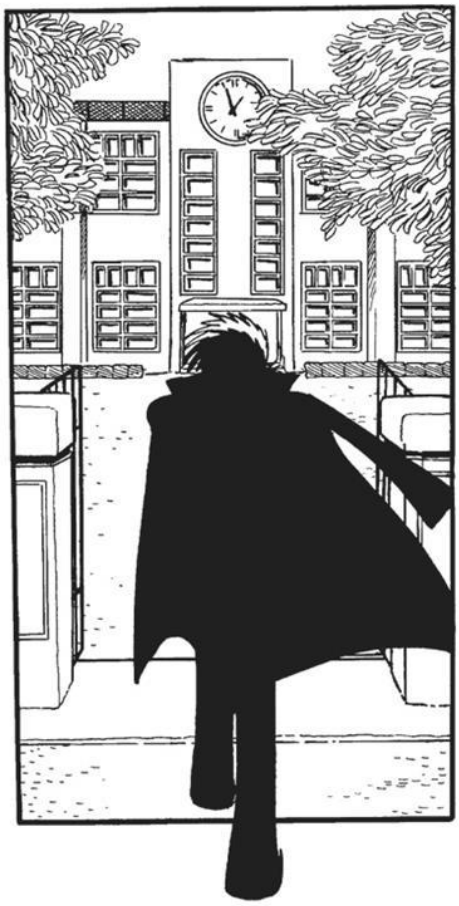
...
SO THIS WHOLE ALIEN BUSINESS IS TO SCARE OFF THE BIG BULLY?



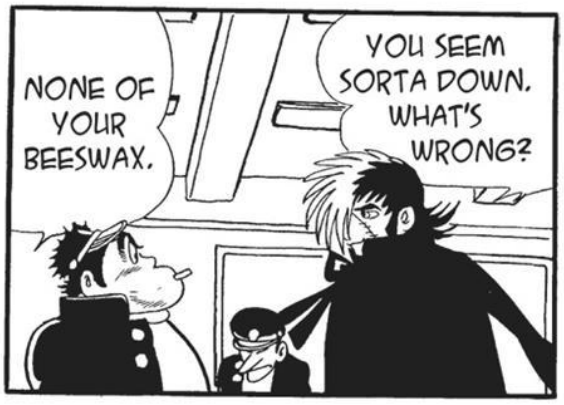

JUST TRY TO BE BRAVE.
WHEN YOU SEE THE BULLY



WHO ARE YOU, POPS?
SO YOU'RE THE BIG BULLY?



YIPE!
LET ME GUESS. THE ALIENS SAID YOU'RE GOING TO DIE.


NONE OF YOUR BEESWAX.
YOU SEEM SORTA DOWN. WHAT'S WRONG?

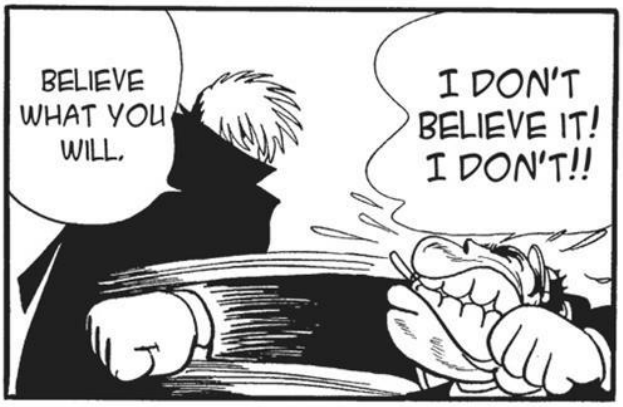
ALIENS, SAUCERS, SCI-FI— IT'S ALL SO STUPID!
AS IF THERE ARE ALIENS. IT'S ALL NONSENSE!

H-HOW DO YOU KNOW THAT? DID TETSUO TELL YOU?

W-W-WILL I REALLY DIE?

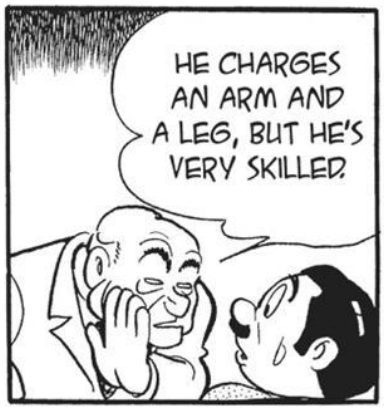
EVEN IF THEY SAID YOU'D DIE IN ONE MONTH?

REALLY?


BELIEVE WHAT YOU WILL.
I DON'T BELIEVE IT! I DON'T!!

THESE ARE ALIENS. THEY MUST KNOW.

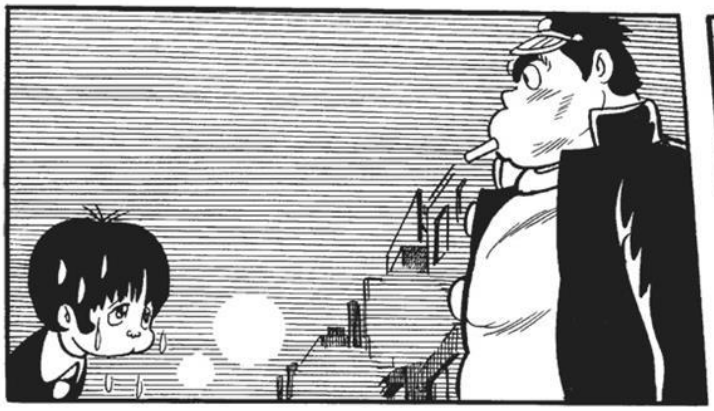
...
READ 'EM IF YOU LIKE.
I'M GOING TO LEAVE THESE SCI-FI BOOKS HERE.
I WANNA READ 'EM.
PUT THOSE BACK!
NO!
WE CAN SELL THESE TO A USED BOOK SHOP.
ANES-THETIC.
SHUT UP. WE CAN STILL SELL 'EM AFTER I'VE READ 'EM.
YOU LOOK UNCOOL READIN' BOOKS.
GIVE IT A REST, BOSS!

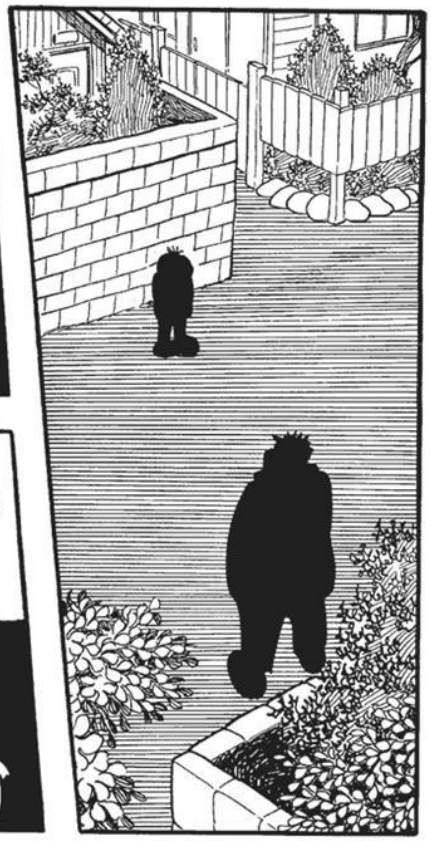

HE CHARGES AN ARM AND A LEG, BUT HE'S VERY SKILLED.

WELL, IT'S PRETTY FAR GONE. BUT I HAVE FAITH IN DR. BLACK JACK.
CAN HE REALLY CURE HIM?

MAY TETSUO'S EYES GET BETTER ...

SNIP
ALL DONE.
THANK YOU SO MUCH, DR. BLACK JACK!
HE CAN REMOVE THE BANDAGES IN A MONTH.
I MANAGED TO FIX HIM UP.
HOW HE DEALS WITH THE BIG BULLY.
THE NEXT HURDLE WILL BE

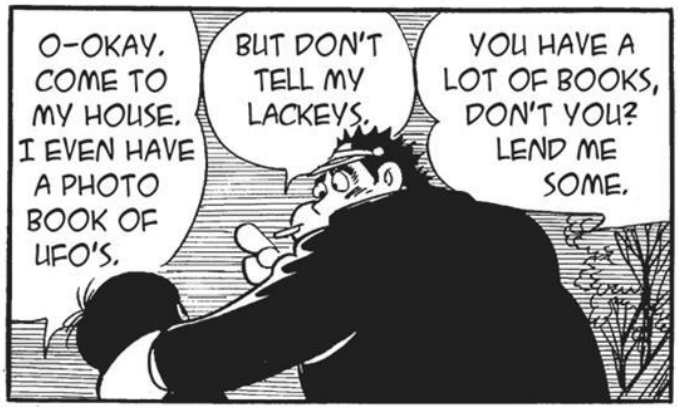




NOTE: WRITER SHINICHI HOSHI (1926–97), A FRIEND OF TEZUKA, EXCELLED AT THE "SHORT-SHORT" FORMAT—CLEVERLY CONCEIVED STORIES EACH JUST A FEW PAGES LONG.

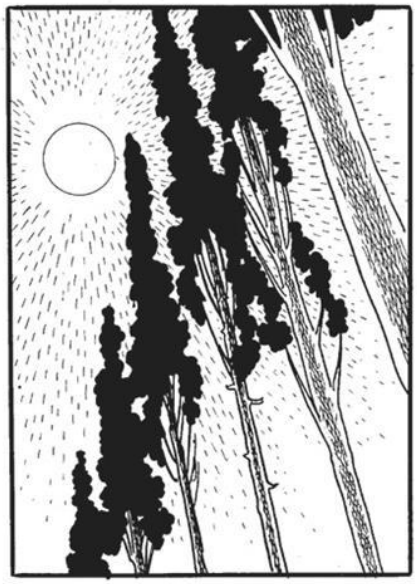
AND THUS THE TWO WERE BOUND IN FRIENDSHIP THANKS TO TALK ABOUT ALIENS.
PERHAPS SOME ALIENS DID SEE TETSUO'S PLIGHT AND HELP HIM IN THEIR MYSTERIOUS WAY...

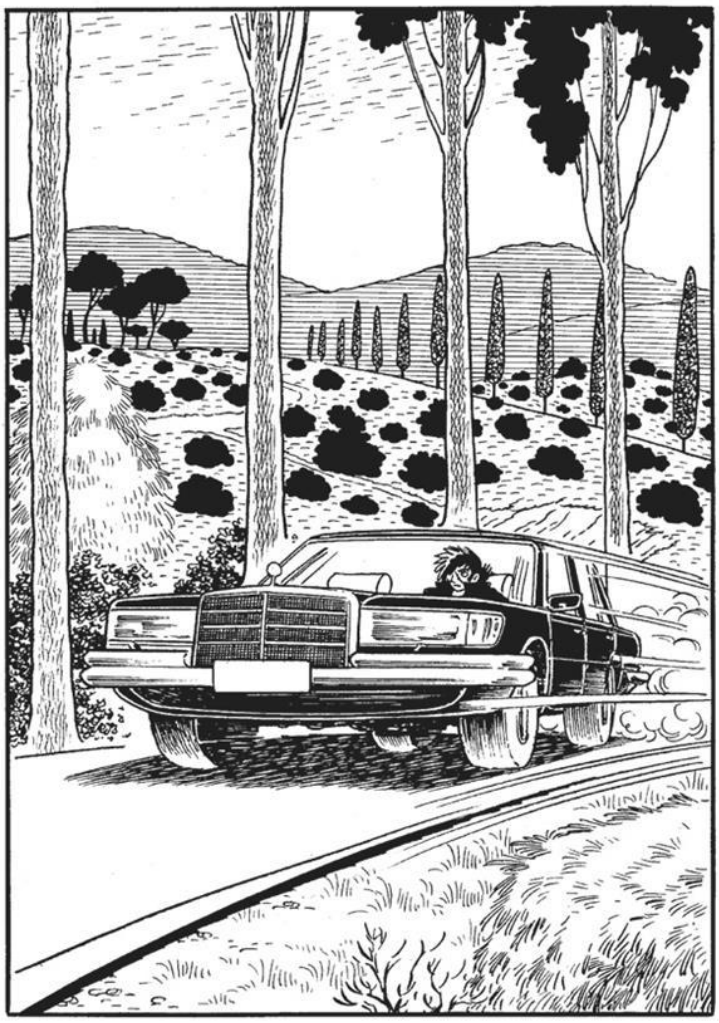
I COULDN'T WAIT FOR YOU TO GET OUT OF THE HOSPITAL.
I'VE REALLY GOTTEN INTO SCI-FI RECENTLY.


O-OKAY. COME TO MY HOUSE. I EVEN HAVE A PHOTO BOOK OF UFO'S.
BUT DON'T TELL MY LACKEYS.
YOU HAVE A LOT OF BOOKS, DON'T YOU? LEND ME SOME.

ME, I DO. THERE'S THIS GUY IN HOKKAIDO WHO SAW...
SO TETSUO, YOU THINK THERE ARE UFO'S?

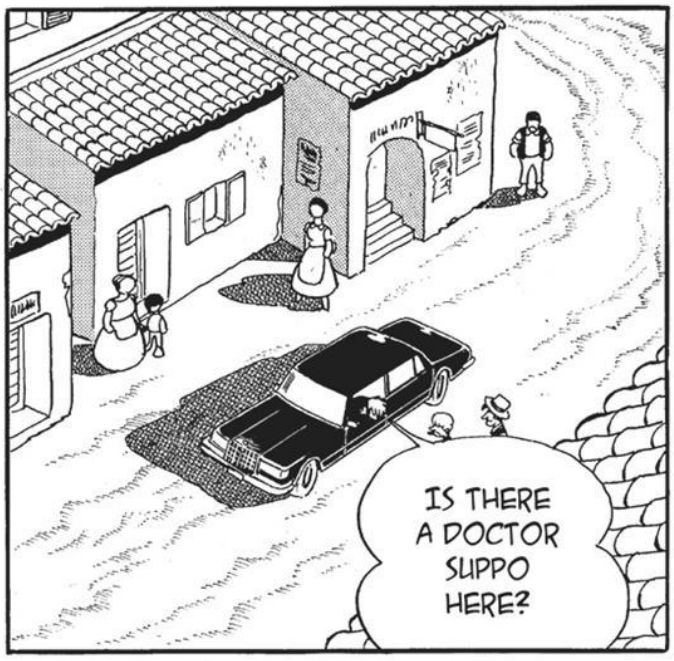
LYNCHING



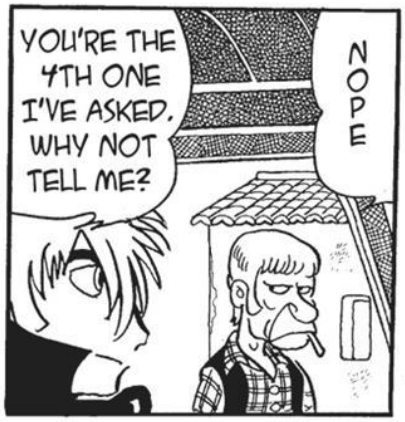


GLARE

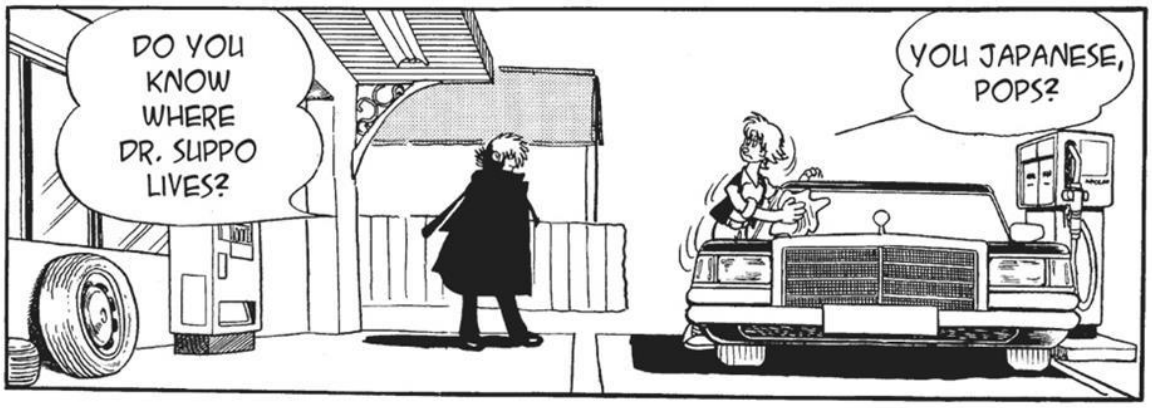
WHAT BUSINESS HAVE YOU GOT WITH DR. SUPPO?


IS THERE A DOCTOR SUPPO HERE?

STUPID VILLAGE.


YOU'RE THE 4TH ONE I'VE ASKED. WHY NOT TELL ME?
NOPE

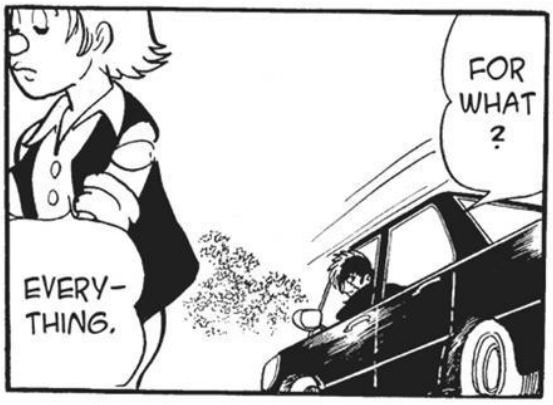
NOT YOUR CONCERN. HE'S A LUSH. DON'T YOU KNOW HIM?


DO YOU KNOW WHERE DR. SUPPO LIVES?
YOU JAPANESE, POPS?

HOW LONG ARE YOU HERE FOR? STAYING OVER-NIGHT?

IT'S UNUSUAL TO SEE A JAPANESE AROUND HERE.

THE PEOPLE HERE SURE ARE COLD.
THERE

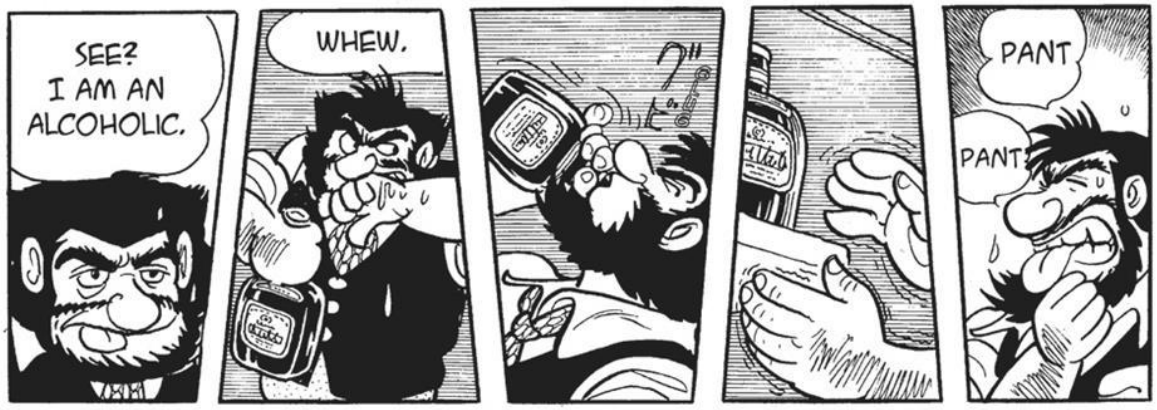

FOR WHAT ?
EVERY-THING.

THEN KEEP AN EYE OUT.
I DON'T KNOW.

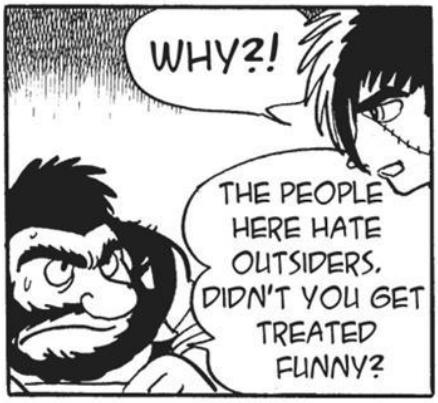
KNOK KNOK
SNORE
SNORE
KNOK KNOK KNOK
HM?
KNOK
KNOK
OH, BUONGIORNO, DR. BLACK JACK.
THUNK
BE RIGHT THERE.

I'M GLAD WE DID AS I REALLY NEED YOUR HELP.
WE FIRST MET AT A HOTEL IN NAPLES, DIDN'T WE?
THANKS FOR COMING TO SICILY, AND A RURAL PART AT THAT.
I'M DONE AS A DOCTOR, THAT'S FOR SURE.
I AM. JUST LOOK AT ME.
YOU'RE REALLY SUFFERING FROM ALCOHOLISM.
I CAN GIVE MEDICINE FOR STOMACH ACHES,
IS THAT I WAS BORN HERE.
BUT YOU HAVE A PRACTICE HERE?
THE ONLY REASON I CAN PRACTICE
WANTS ME TO OPERATE ON HIS DAUGH-TER.
PROBLEM IS, THIS VILLAGE'S BIG SHOT, GERVINO,
BUT I CAN'T OPERATE WITH THESE HANDS.

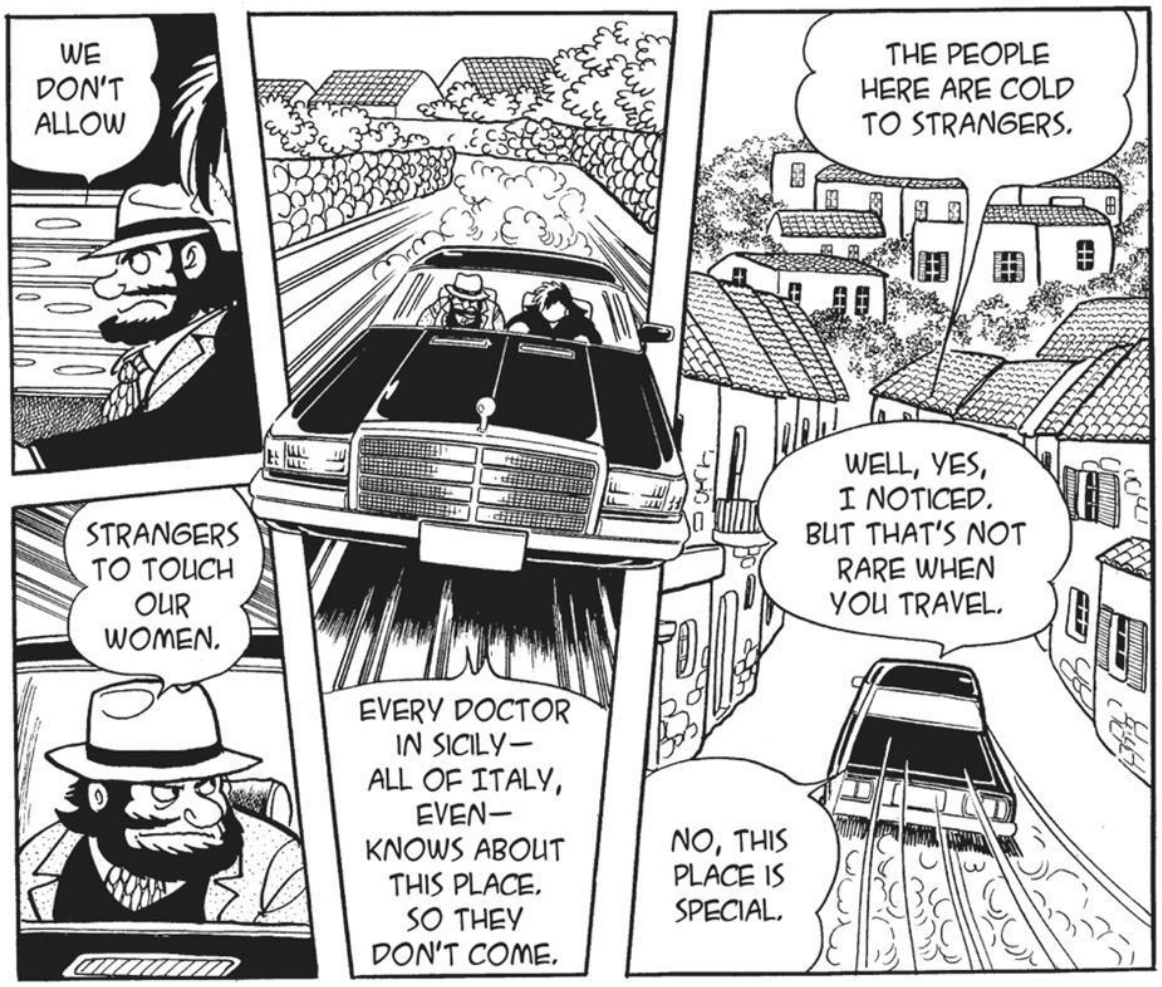
LUNG...
HOW BAD ?
UTERINE CANCER.


SEE? I AM AN ALCOHOLIC.
WHEW.
PANT
PANT

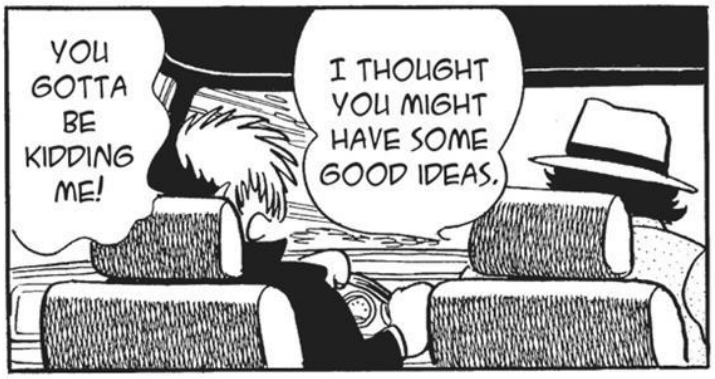
NO ONE'LL COME.


WHY?!
THE PEOPLE HERE HATE OUTSIDERS. DIDN'T YOU GET TREATED FUNNY?

WHY? THERE MUST BE A GOOD ITALIAN DOCTOR WHO CAN DO IT!
THERE'S NO WAY I CAN OPERATE. I NEED YOUR HELP. PLEASE OPERATE ON THIS MAN'S DAUGHTER.

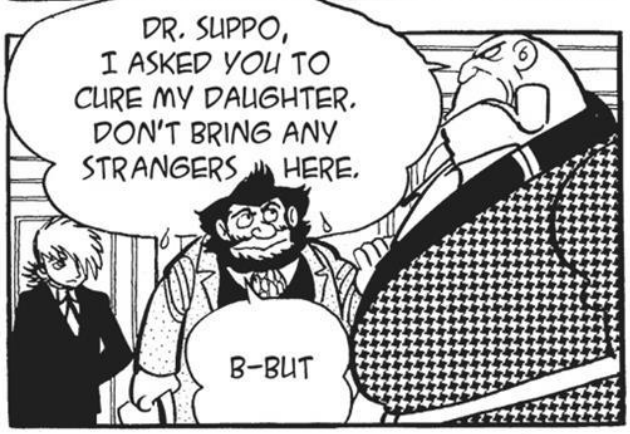

WE DON'T ALLOW
STRANGERS TO TOUCH OUR WOMEN.
EVERY DOCTOR IN SICILY— ALL OF ITALY, EVEN— KNOWS ABOUT THIS PLACE. SO THEY DON'T COME.
THE PEOPLE HERE ARE COLD TO STRANGERS.
WELL, YES, I NOTICED. BUT THAT'S NOT RARE WHEN YOU TRAVEL.
NO, THIS PLACE IS SPECIAL.

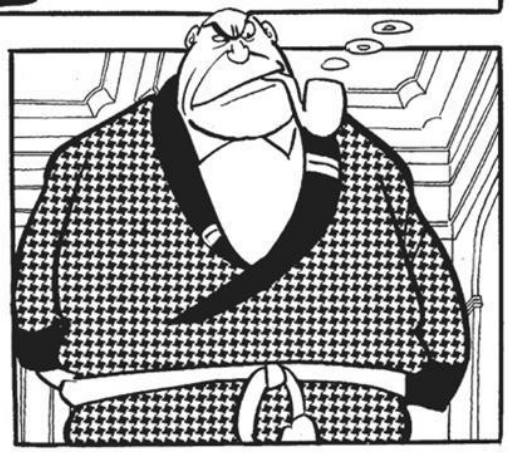
YES. WHENEVER IT HAPPENS THE VILLAGERS RISE UP IN ARMS...
RIDICULOUS! EVEN IF YOU'RE A DOCTOR?


YOU GOTTA BE KIDDING ME!
I THOUGHT YOU MIGHT HAVE SOME GOOD IDEAS.

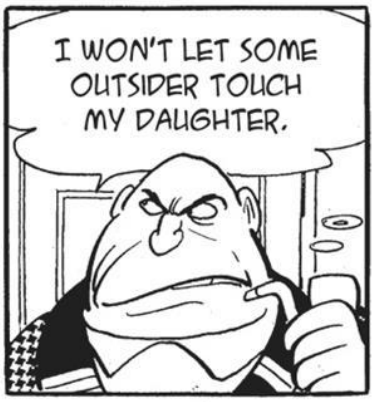
THAT MEANS I CAN'T EVEN EXAMINE HER!

HERE WE ARE, GERVINO'S MANSION. HE'S THE MOST INFLUENTIAL MAN IN THESE PARTS.


DR. SUPPO, I ASKED YOU TO CURE MY DAUGHTER. DON'T BRING ANY STRANGERS HERE.
B-BUT



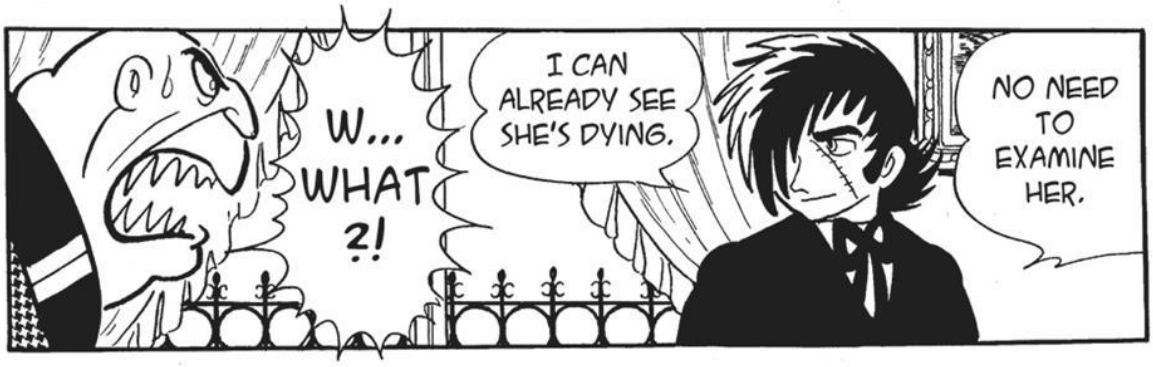
IF I HEAR MY DAUGHTER COMPLAIN, YOU'LL PAY FOR IT.


I WON'T LET SOME OUTSIDER TOUCH MY DAUGHTER.

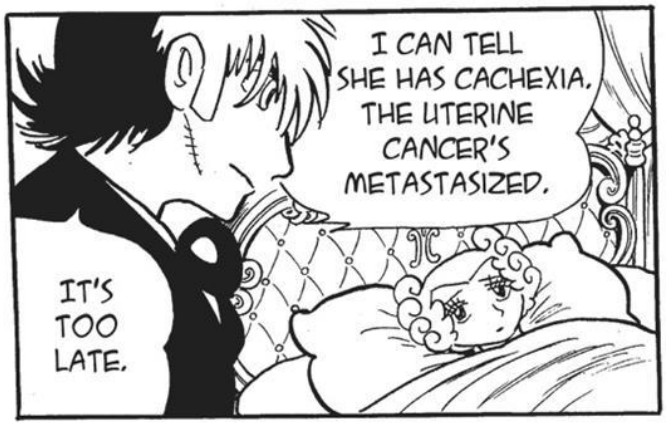
HE'S THE WORLD'S BEST SURGEON. I VOUCH FOR HIM.

...

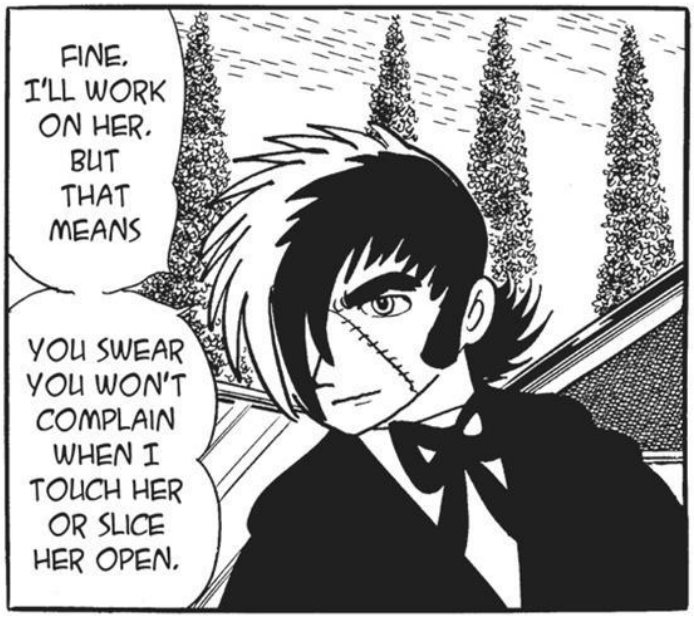
DON'T BE AFRAID, ANNA. THIS IS A NEW DOCTOR.


W... WHAT ?!
I CAN ALREADY SEE SHE'S DYING.
NO NEED TO EXAMINE HER.

WHY DID YOU LET IT GET THIS BAD?


I CAN TELL SHE HAS CACHEXIA. THE UTERINE CANCER'S METASTASIZED.
IT'S TOO LATE.

WAIT!
SOMEONE WHO'S CLEARLY A GONER. I'M LEAVING.
THERE'S NO POINT IN TRYING TO SAVE
I'LL LEAVE THIS TO DR. SUPPO, MR. GERVINO.
HOW DARE YOU CALL YOURSELF A DOCTOR!
YOU KILLER!
I DON'T FEEL LIKE TRYING TO SAVE SOME-ONE WHO CAN'T BE SAVED.
HE'S A DRUNKARD.
WHAT DO YOU WANT FROM ME?
I WON'T SAY ANOTHER WORD. PLEASE, HELP HER.
WAIT, I SAY! BLOCK-HEAD!


FINE. I'LL WORK ON HER. BUT THAT MEANS
YOU SWEAR YOU WON'T COMPLAIN WHEN I TOUCH HER OR SLICE HER OPEN.

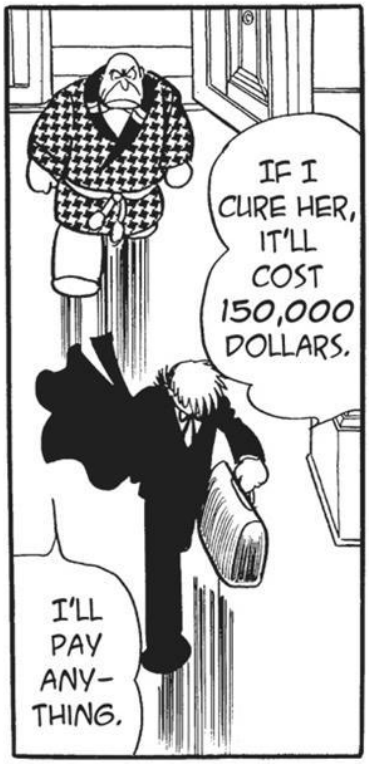
WHY NOT TAKE HER TO A HOSPITAL IN ROME?

IF SHE'S GOING TO DIE, I WANT HER LAST DAYS TO BE IN HER HOMETOWN!

THEN I'LL DO WHAT I CAN.
I-I SWEAR... TO GOD...

WHISK

EEP!


IF I CURE HER, IT'LL COST 150,000 DOLLARS.
I'LL PAY ANY-THING.

AH... DON'T TOUCH ME...
IT'S A MEDICAL EXAM, ANNA.
SO MUCH PEP, IN THIS STATE.
I'LL KILL YOU IF YOU TOUCH ME!
EEK!
...
PAPA, HELP ME!
...
NO, NO!!
SHE HAS UTERINE CANCER. DON'T YOU KNOW WHERE THAT IS?
ABSOLUTELY NOT!!
HER PANTIES, TOO.

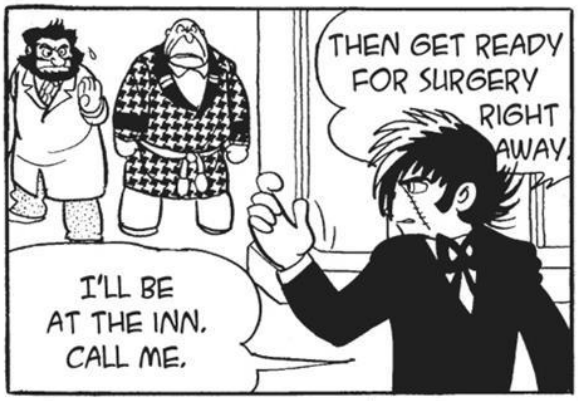
I'LL NEVER FORGIVE YOU!

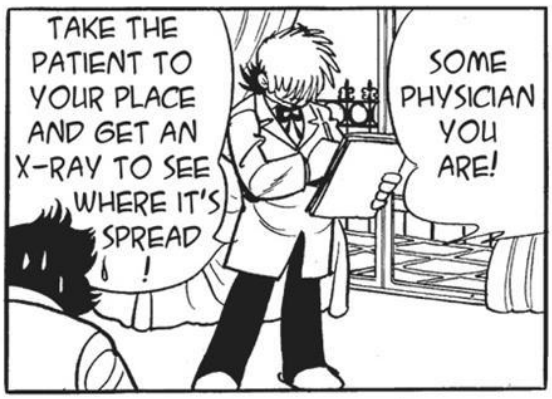
TAKE 'EM OFF, ANNA !
SICK TWIST !!
TEZUKA, YOU LECHER!

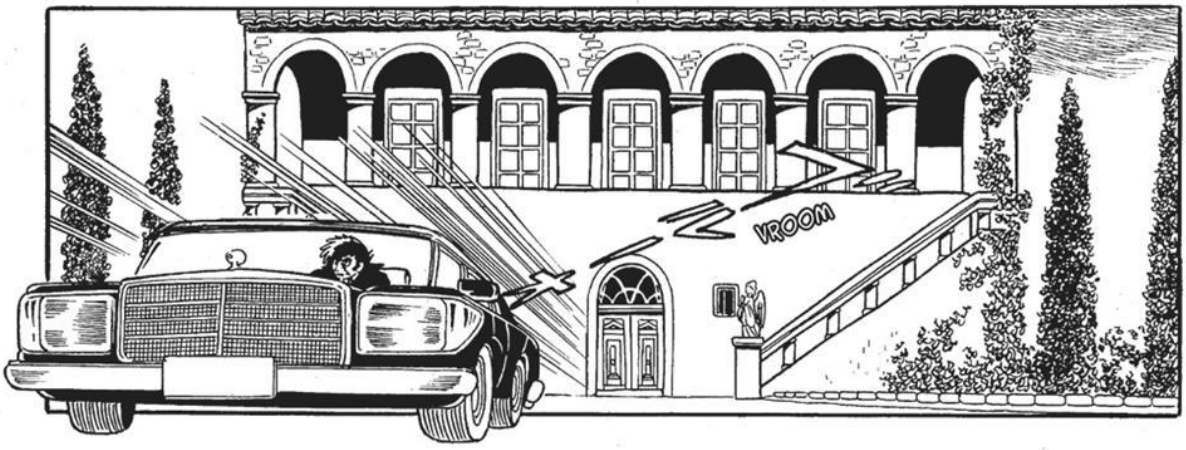
YOU SWORE, MR. GERVINO.

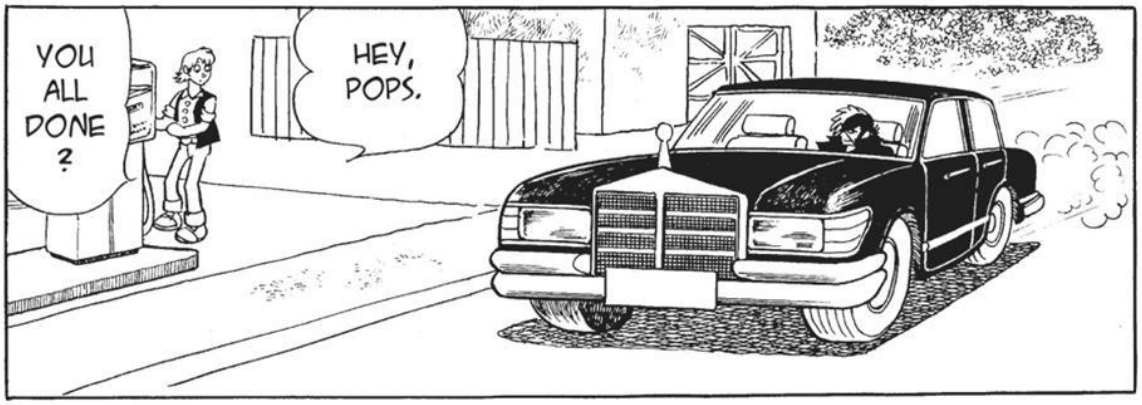
YES, A MONTH AGO.
NO! TOO OLD!

THIS IS A BIG ONE.
DR. SUPPO, DID YOU TAKE AN X-RAY?


THEN GET READY FOR SURGERY RIGHT AWAY.
I'LL BE AT THE INN. CALL ME.


TAKE THE PATIENT TO YOUR PLACE AND GET AN X-RAY TO SEE WHERE IT'S SPREAD !
SOME PHYSICIAN YOU ARE!


VROOM

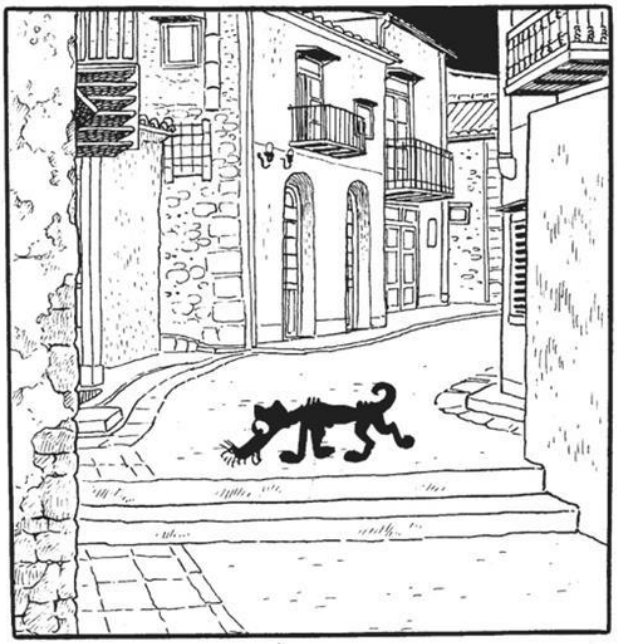

YOU ALL DONE ?
HEY, POPS.

WHY? SICILIANS HAVE ALWAYS GUARDED THEIR OWN. THE VILLAGERS HERE ARE ESPECIALLY COLD TO OUTSIDE FOLK.
WHY ?
TAKE CARE.

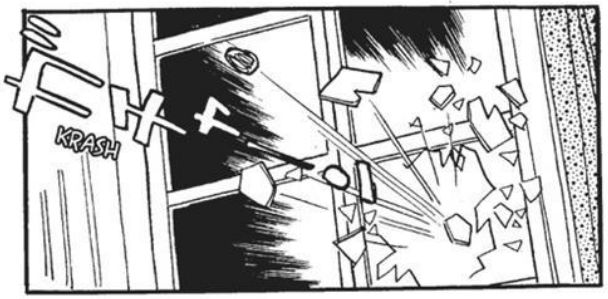
I'LL BE STAYING HERE 4, MAYBE 5 NIGHTS.
OH, DEAR.
NO ...

THE PEOPLE HERE HATE OUT-SIDERS.
I HOPE THE VILLAGE GUYS DON'T BOTHER YOU.

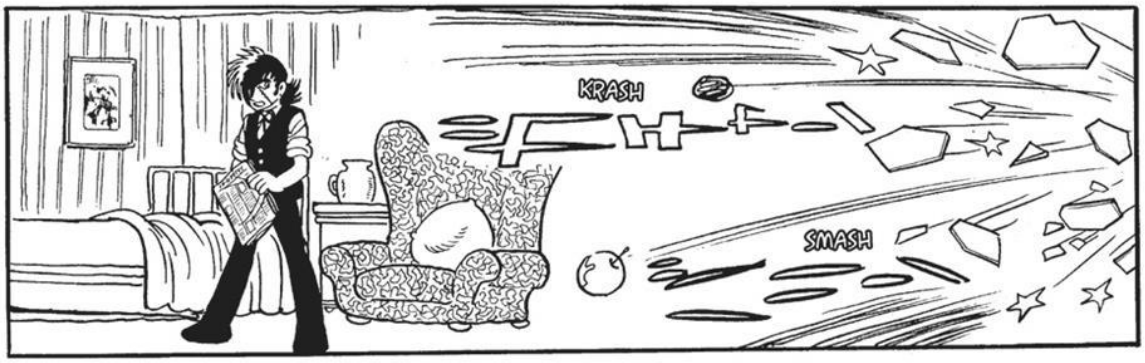
...
IF THE VILLAGE DOCTOR CALLS, PLEASE TELL ME RIGHT AWAY.

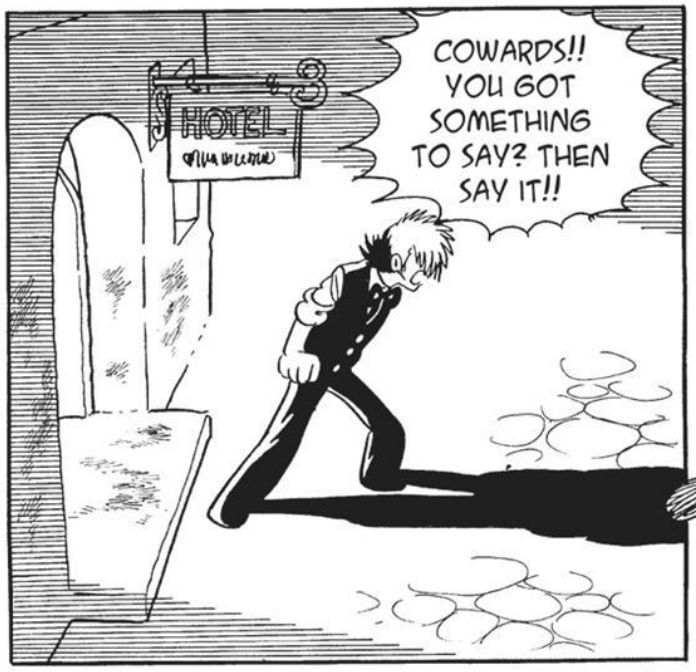


WHO'S THERE?!


KRASH

THWAP
NEWS


KRASH
SMASH

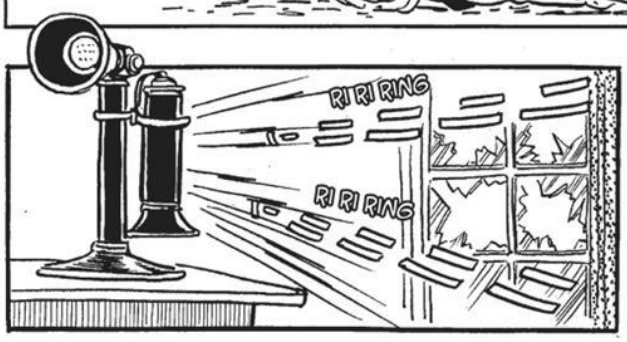

HOTEL
COWARDS!! YOU GOT SOMETHING TO SAY? THEN SAY IT!!

HEY! KNOCK IT OFF!!

THWIP

UNH!
SOMEONE THERE?
OW!
OW! WHAT'RE YOU DOING? STOP!
STOP!!
UPF!
WHUMP
WHACK
DAMN COWARDS! CREEP-ING AROUND IN THE DARK ...

TAKE THAT!
WHAP
BONK
GET 'IM!
WHAM
BIFF
KARK
HOW DARE YOU PUT YOUR HANDS ON GERVINO'S DAUGHTER!

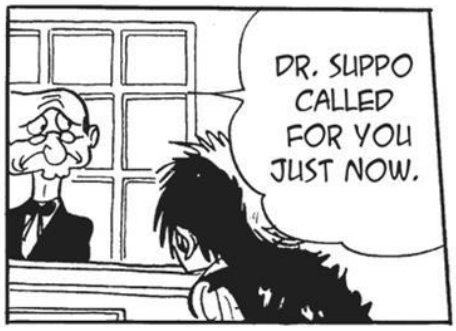

RI RI RING
RI RI RING

HE LEFT A WHILE AGO AND ISN'T BACK YET.

IT'S SUPPO. CAN YOU TELL DR. BLACK JACK WE'RE READY ?
HELLO? IS THIS THE INN?

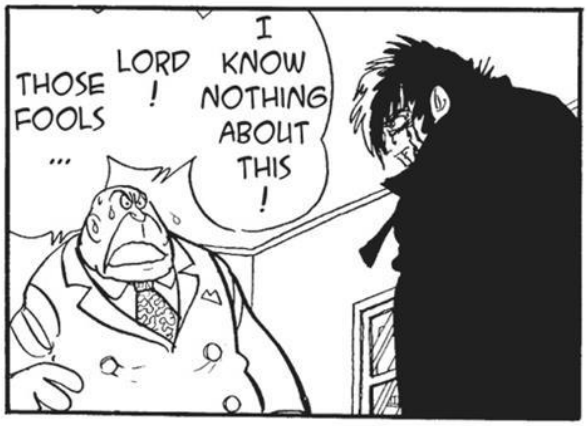
WHIS-PER

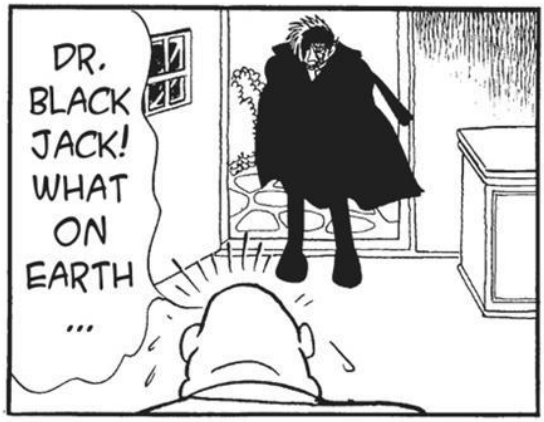
MUST HAVE BEEN QUITE A SHOW.


DR. SUPPO CALLED FOR YOU JUST NOW.

YOU JUST SAT THERE THE WHOLE TIME, DIDN'T YOU?

YOU SHOULD WASH UP.
...
UNH ...
WHERE ARE YOU GOING ?!
SHUT UP, WILL YOU?
UH... NGG...


THOSE FOOLS ...
LORD !
I KNOW NOTHING ABOUT THIS !


DR. BLACK JACK! WHAT ON EARTH ...

IT SPREAD LIKE WILDFIRE.
YOUR DAUGHTER TATTLED TO A VILLAGER.

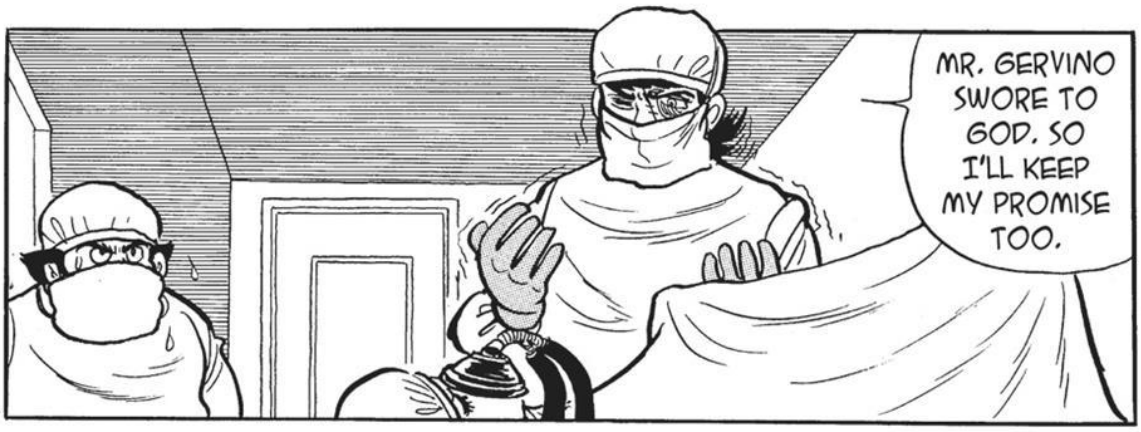
WHO RILED THEM UP?
BUT WHO DID?

I KNOW YOU DIDN'T ORDER IT.
DON'T WORRY,

YOU CAN'T OPERATE LIKE THAT.
WELL, I PROMISED.

...
YOU?! HOW COULD YOU!!

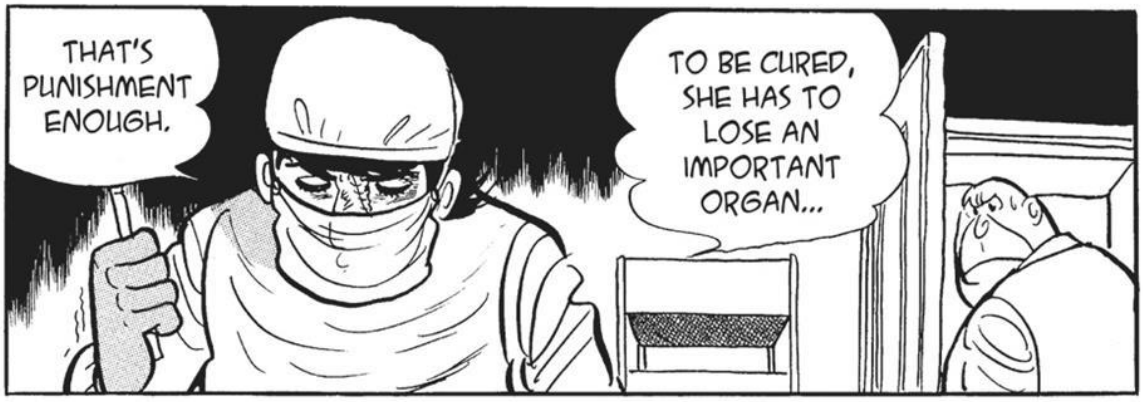
SHAME ON YOU!
THAT MAN IS TRYING TO SAVE YOUR LIFE!


MR. GERVINO SWORE TO GOD. SO I'LL KEEP MY PROMISE TOO.

NO NEED.

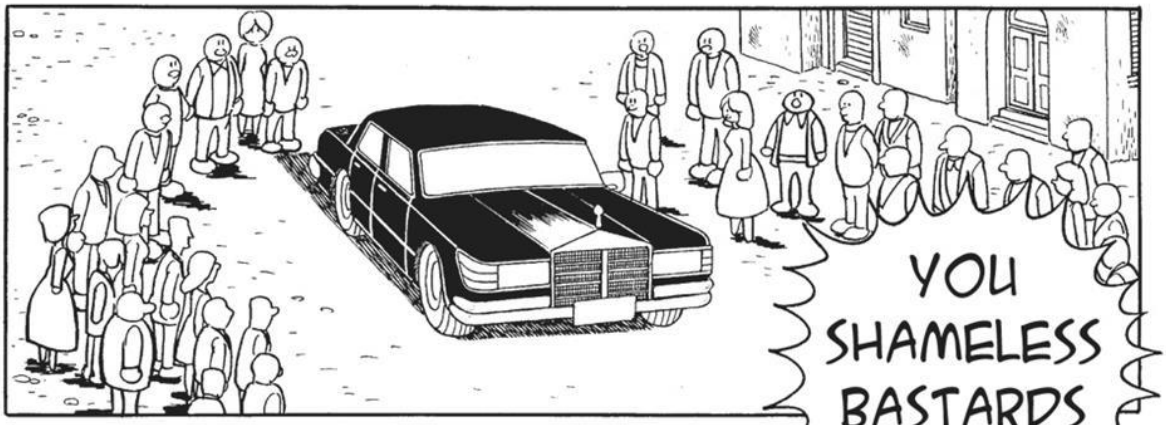
I'LL PUNISH HER FOR HER CON-DUCT.
IF SHE HEALS,

DON'T WORRY, EVEN LIKE THIS I'M BETTER THAN A LUSH.


THAT'S PUNISHMENT ENOUGH.
TO BE CURED, SHE HAS TO LOSE AN IMPORTANT ORGAN...

...

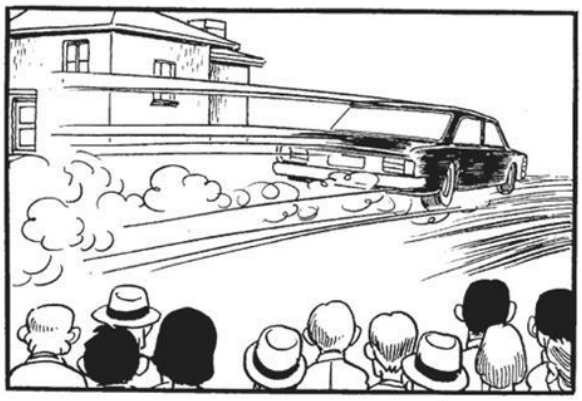
NO. 2 SCAL-PEL.


YOU SHAMELESS BASTARDS !!

IF ANYONE LAYS A FINGER ON HIM AGAIN, I'LL KILL YOU MYSELF !
LISTEN WELL! THIS DOCTOR IS... LIKE A SAVIOR TO ME!

SAVE YOUR SPEECH
BUT I'LL NEVER SET FOOT HERE AGAIN.

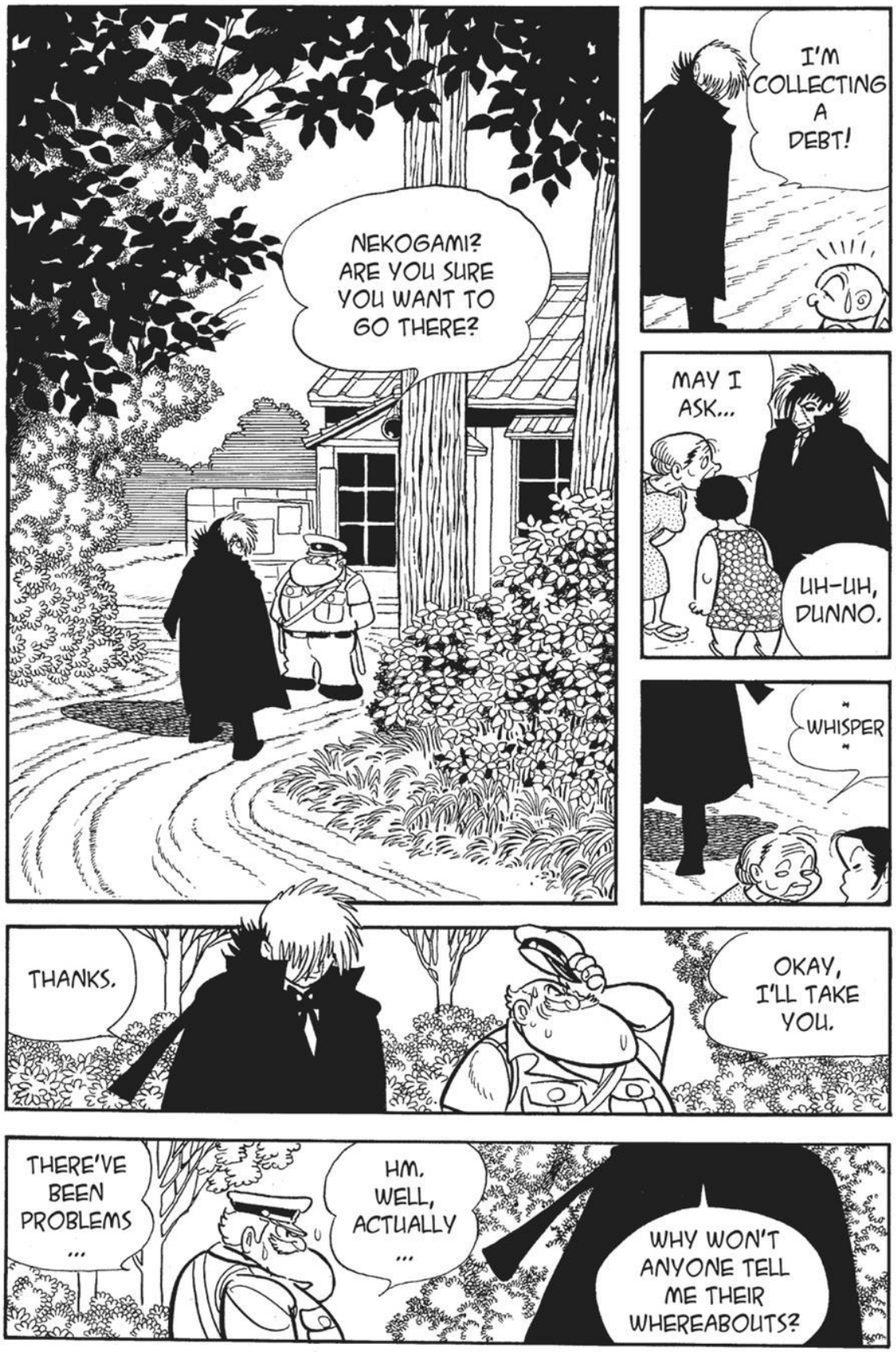
SORRY, MR. GERVINO ...
MARK MY WORDS!

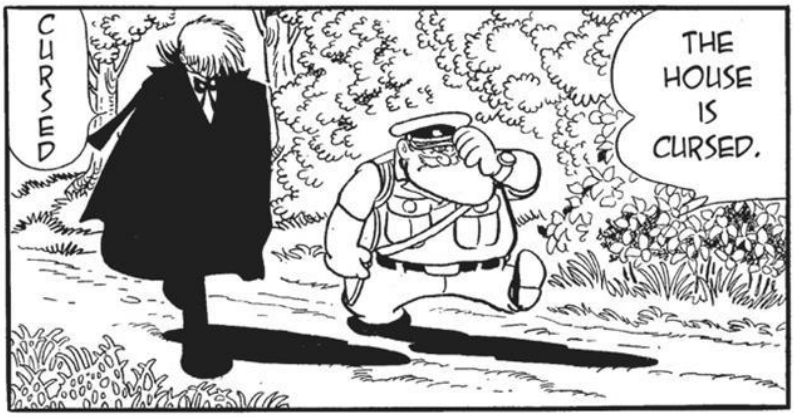


FOR THE NEXT TIME A STRANGER COMES CALLING.

THE NEKOGAMI CLAN

NOTE: THE TITLE PLAYS ON *THE INUGAMI CLAN*, A NOVEL BY SEISHI YOKOMIZO, WHOSE HORROR MYSTERIES ABOUT OLD FAMILIES WITH DARK SECRETS REMAIN POPULAR TODAY. "INU" MEANS *DOG*, "NEKO" *CAT*, AND "KAMI" *GOD*.


NEKOGAMI? ARE YOU SURE YOU WANT TO GO THERE?
I'M COLLECTING A DEBT!
MAY I ASK...
UH-UH, DUNNO.
WHISPER
THANKS.
OKAY, I'LL TAKE YOU.
THERE'VE BEEN PROBLEMS ...
HM. WELL, ACTUALLY ...
WHY WON'T ANYONE TELL ME THEIR WHEREABOUTS?


CURSED
THE HOUSE IS CURSED.

SUCH AS? HMM, WELL... LET ME JUST SAY
THE SERVANTS THERE

SUCH AS ?

LOTTA WEIRD THINGS GOING DOWN THERE.
YEAH. HEXED, Y'KNOW.

AND YOU, A POLICE-MAN, BELIEVE THAT?
AND THE VILLAGERS CALL IT A HAUNTED MANSION.

OFFICER AKO. IF SOMETHING HAPPENS, CALL FOR ME.
I WON'T NEED TO.

HAVE SEEN ODD THINGS. RUMORS SNOWBALL ...

YOU'RE... DOCTOR BLACK JACK.
WHAT BRINGS YOU HERE?

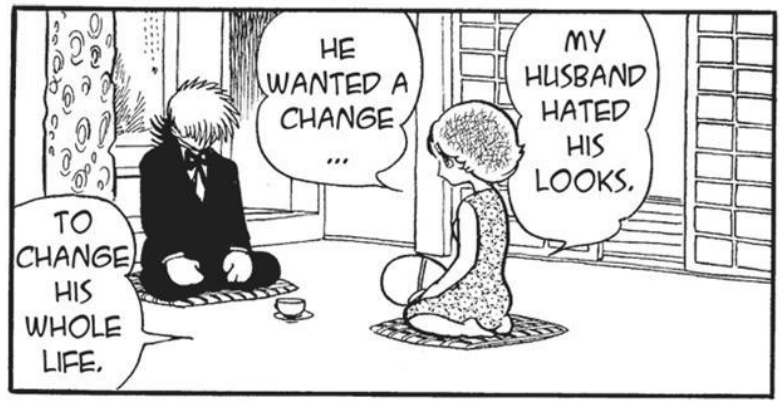
OH!

WHO IS IT?
THIS IS THE DOCTOR WHO DID MY FACE.

O-OH, OF COURSE, OF COURSE ...

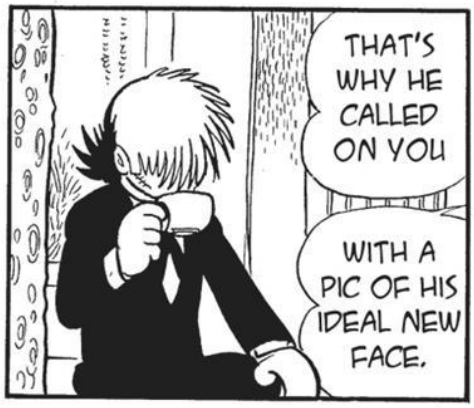
I LET IT SLIP.
A LOT'S HAPPENED SINCE.
I'LL PAY. NOW!

I'VE COME TO COLLECT MY FEE FOR THE PLASTIC SURGERY I PERFORMED ON YOUR FACE.
YOU SAID YOU'D SEND IT TO ME, BUT YOU DIDN'T.

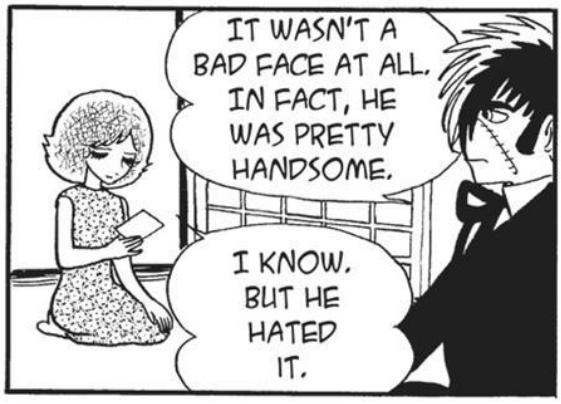

HE WANTED A CHANGE ...
MY HUSBAND HATED HIS LOOKS.
TO CHANGE HIS WHOLE LIFE.

THIS IS MY WIFE.
I'VE HEARD ABOUT YOU.

THIS IS HOW HE USED TO LOOK.


THAT'S WHY HE CALLED ON YOU
WITH A PIC OF HIS IDEAL NEW FACE.

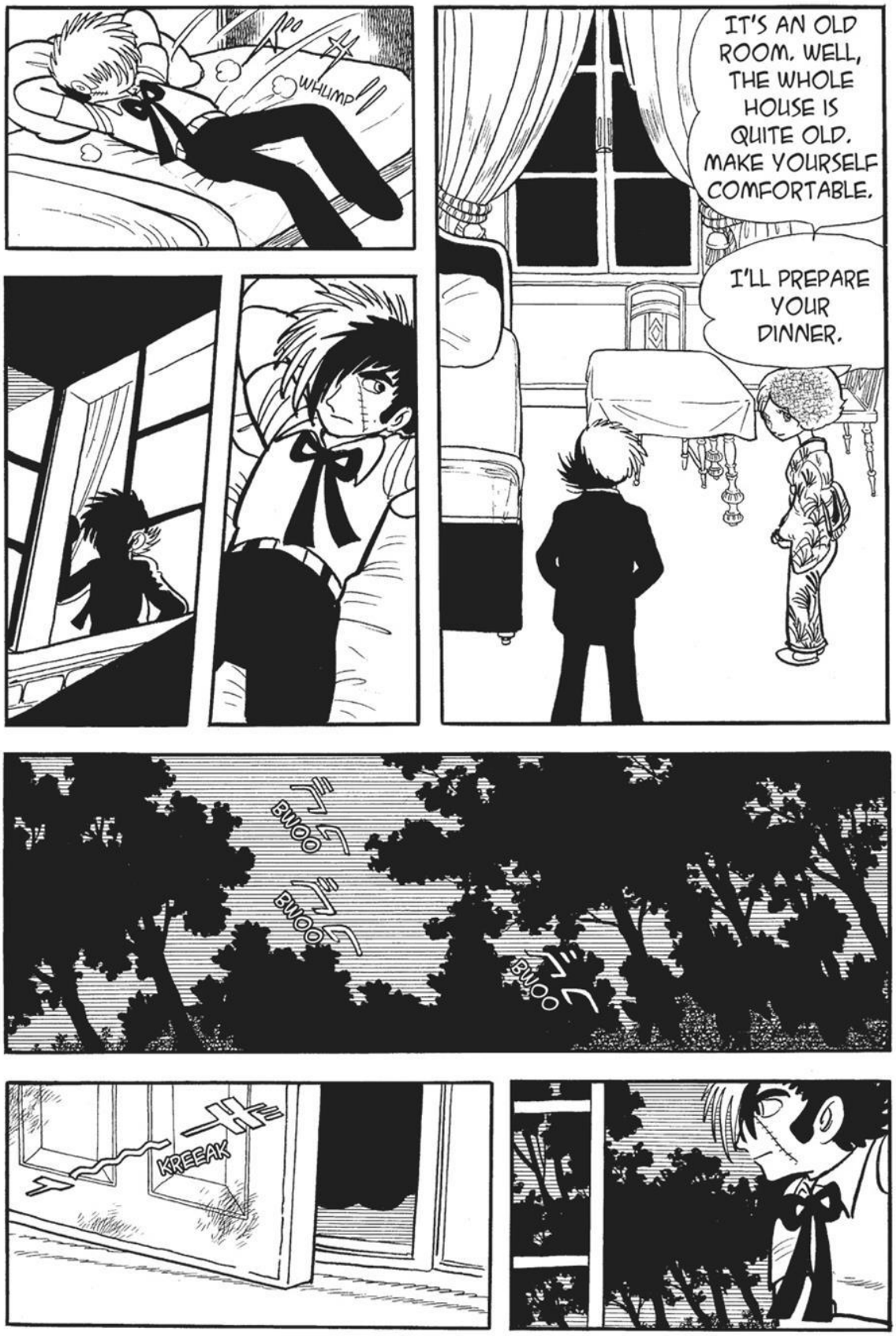
I TRY NOT TO PRY BECAUSE I DON'T WANT TO KNOW.
WELL, I RESPECT HIS PRI-VACY.


IT WASN'T A BAD FACE AT ALL. IN FACT, HE WAS PRETTY HANDSOME.
I KNOW. BUT HE HATED IT.

I'LL PAY TOMORROW MORNING. PLEASE STAY THE NIGHT.
YES, DO.

THE BANK HAS CLOSED FOR TODAY. I CAN'T TAKE OUT CASH.

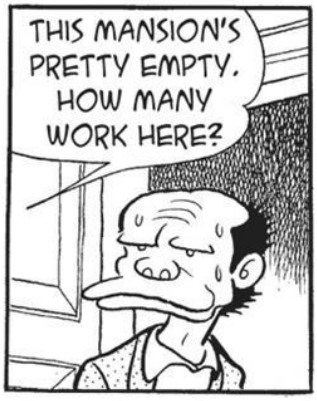
I'M SORRY BUT I HAVE BAD NEWS.


WHUMP
IT'S AN OLD ROOM. WELL, THE WHOLE HOUSE IS QUITE OLD. MAKE YOURSELF COMFORTABLE.
I'LL PREPARE YOUR DINNER.
BWOO
BWOO
BWOO
KREEAK

I'VE SOMETHING TO ASK YOU.

HERE'S YER DINNER.

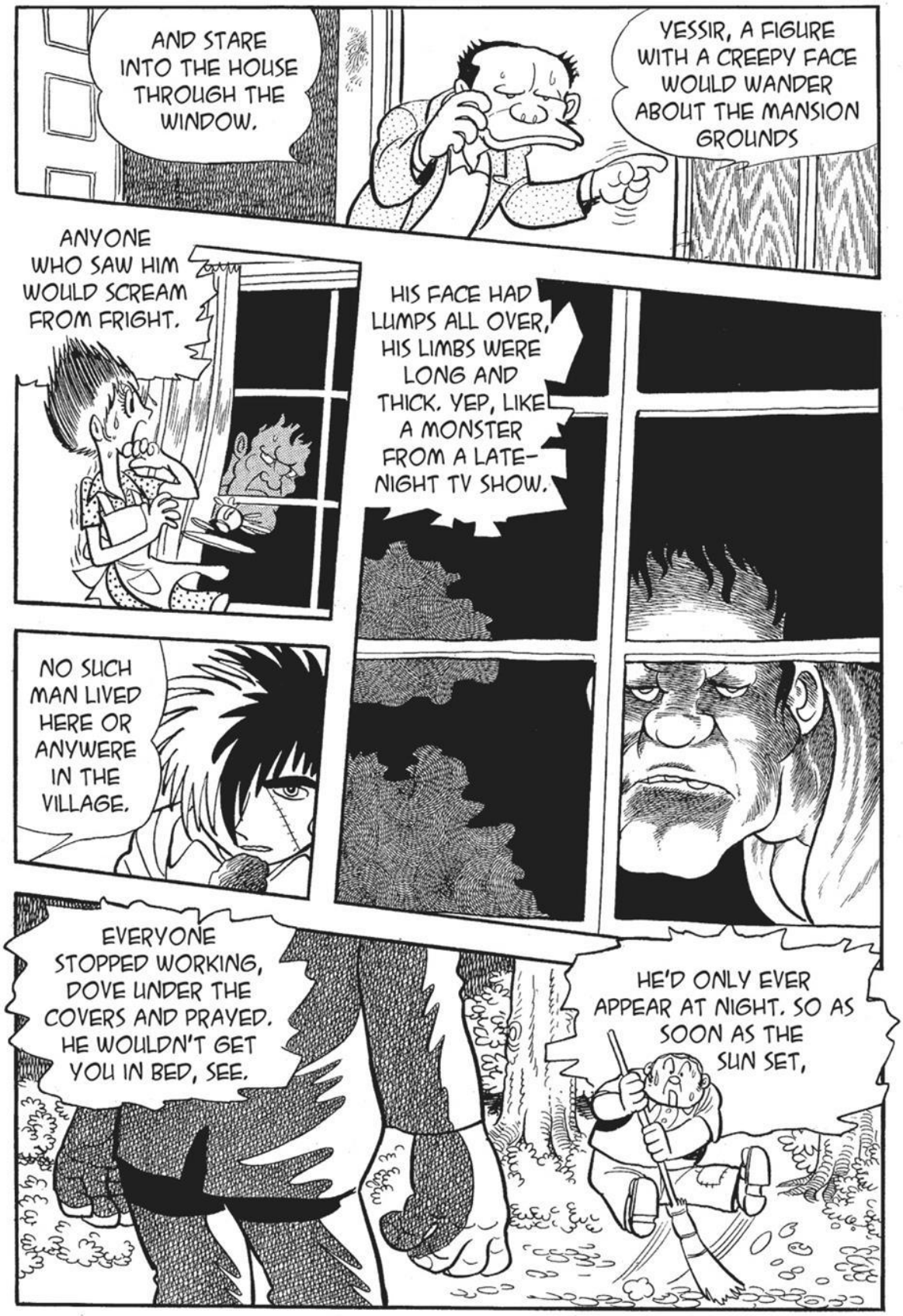
WHY? WERE THEY SCARED ?
SO EVERYONE ELSE QUIT?
JUST THE COOK AND ME, THE SERVANT.


THIS MANSION'S PRETTY EMPTY. HOW MANY WORK HERE?

I'VE NEVER SEEN ANY WEIRD THINGS MYSELF...
BUT SOME SAY THEY SAW A BUGBEAR HERE A WHILE BACK.
IT CREEPED EVERYONE OUT, IT DID.

THEY CALL THIS PLACE HAUN-TED.
WHEN I ASK ABOUT THIS PLACE,
THE VILLAGERS GRIMACE.

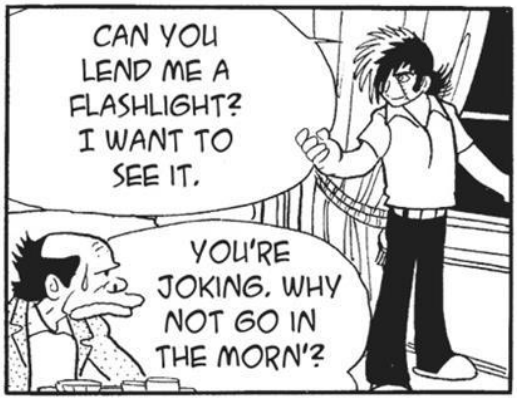
IS IT REALLY CURSED ?
WHAT WEIRD THINGS HAPPEN?


AND STARE INTO THE HOUSE THROUGH THE WINDOW.
YESSIR, A FIGURE WITH A CREEPY FACE WOULD WANDER ABOUT THE MANSION GROUNDS
ANYONE WHO SAW HIM WOULD SCREAM FROM FRIGHT.
HIS FACE HAD LUMPS ALL OVER, HIS LIMBS WERE LONG AND THICK. YEP, LIKE A MONSTER FROM A LATE-NIGHT TV SHOW.
NO SUCH MAN LIVED HERE OR ANYWERE IN THE VILLAGE.
EVERYONE STOPPED WORKING, DOVE UNDER THE COVERS AND PRAYED. HE WOULDN'T GET YOU IN BED, SEE.
HE'D ONLY EVER APPEAR AT NIGHT. SO AS SOON AS THE SUN SET,

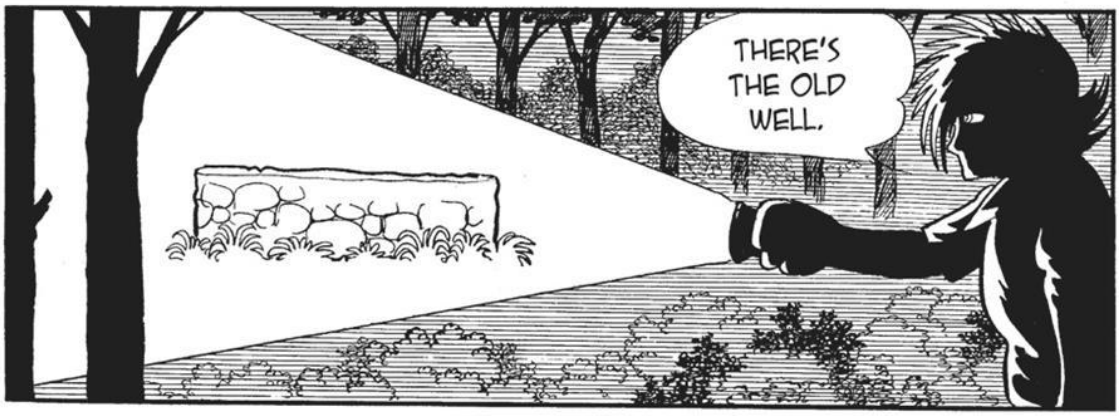
MUSTA BEEN A MOUNTAIN SPIRIT.
HMM. SO DID THE OWNERS TALK TO THE POLICE?
THEY WERE SCARED BUT TURNED A BLIND EYE. THIS IS A SMALL TOWN.
NO.
HE'D MAKE TO HOWL, BUT BY THEN, EVERYONE'D FLED.
HE'D START TO MUMBLE WHEN HE SAW PEOPLE.
ABOUT A YEAR AGO THE MONSTER STOPPED COMING AROUND.
BUT THEN ...
NO ONE HERE LIKES TO GET THE COPS INVOLVED.
YEP, TRUTH IS THE OWNER GOT A PRIEST TO DO A CLEANSING RITUAL FOR THE MANSION.
SO HE'S GONE?

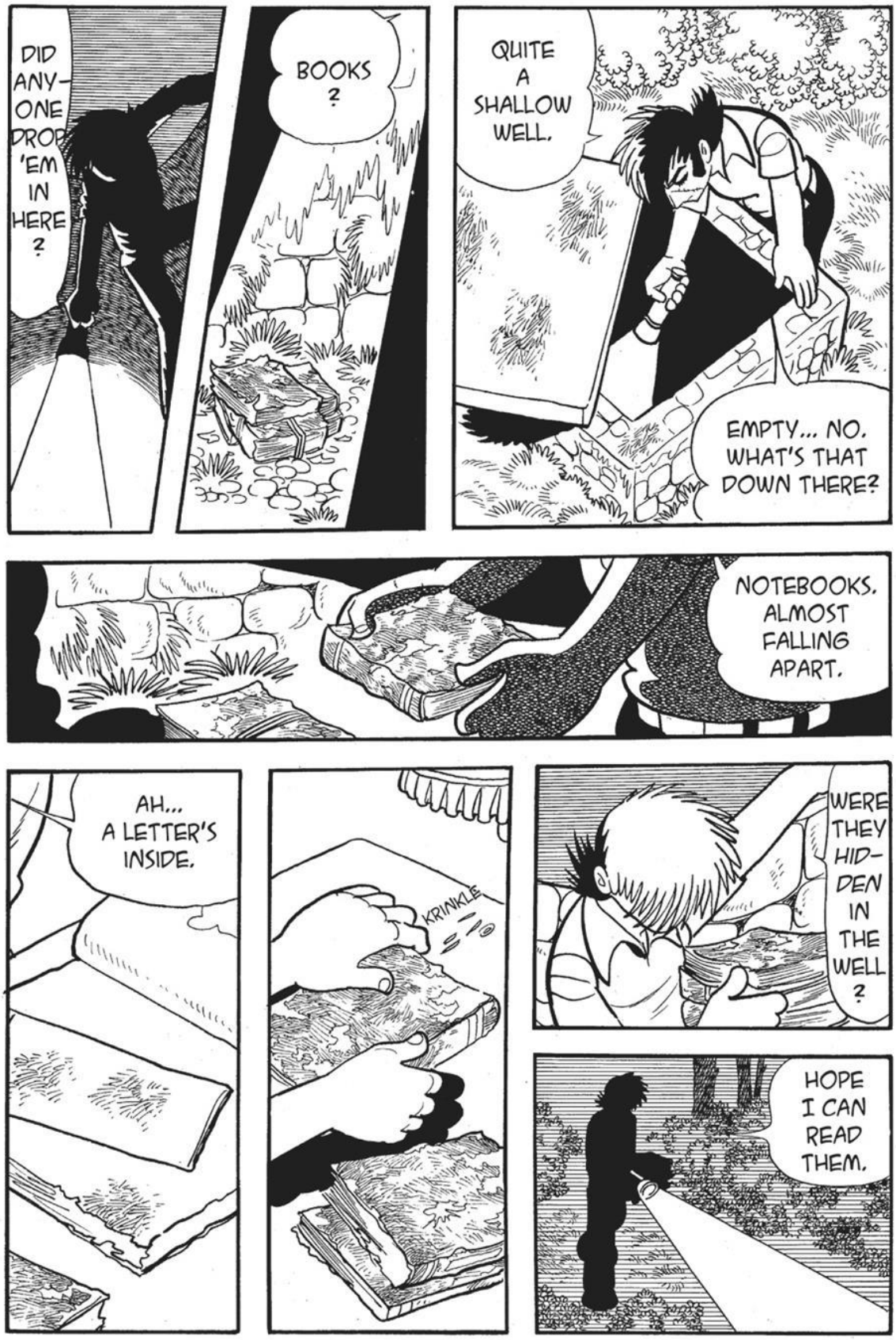
AN OLD WELL. IT'S CREEPY, THOUGH, SO NO ONE GOES NEAR.
THIS GARDEN OUT BACK IS HUGE. IS THERE ANYTHING OUT THERE?

BECAUSE THERE'S SOMETHING I GOTTA SEE.


CAN YOU LEND ME A FLASHLIGHT? I WANT TO SEE IT.
YOU'RE JOKING. WHY NOT GO IN THE MORN'?

WHY GO LOOKIN' FOR TROUBLE ?
I'LL BE GONE BY THEN.


THERE'S THE OLD WELL.

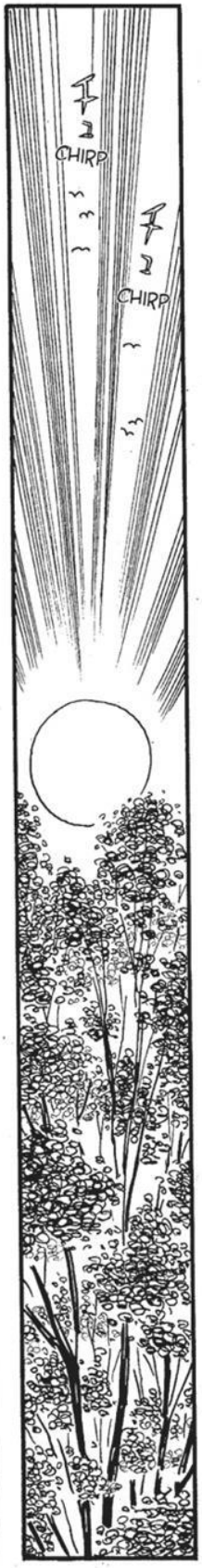

DID ANY-ONE DROP 'EM IN HERE ?
BOOKS ?
QUITE A SHALLOW WELL.
EMPTY... NO. WHAT'S THAT DOWN THERE?
NOTEBOOKS. ALMOST FALLING APART.
AH... A LETTER'S INSIDE.
KRINKLE
WERE THEY HID-DEN IN THE WELL ?
HOPE I CAN READ THEM.

HERE'S YOUR 50 MILLION YEN.

THIS IS ABRUPT, BUT DO YOU HAVE A STORE-HOUSE?
STORE-HOUSE ?

IT'S RIGHT OVER THERE. SOMETHING WRONG?

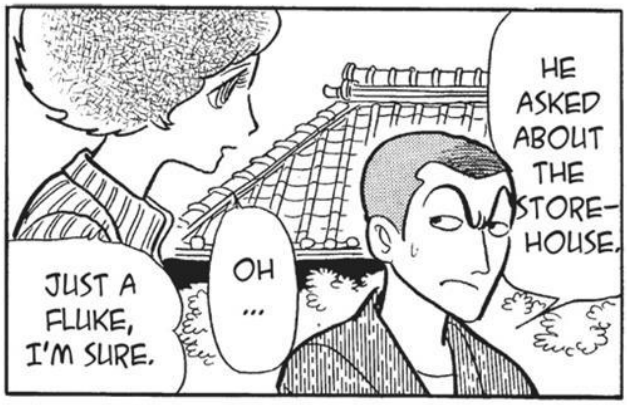
NO, NOT AT ALL.

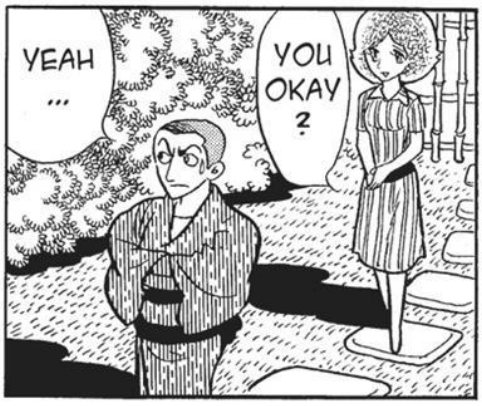

CHIRP
CHIRP

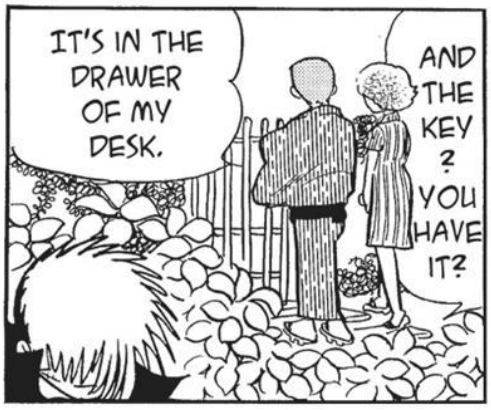
KRIK
KRINK

Oct. 13th
I've been locked in the storehouse. This diary is being written inside there.

THE STOREHOUSE? WHAT STORE-HOUSE ?

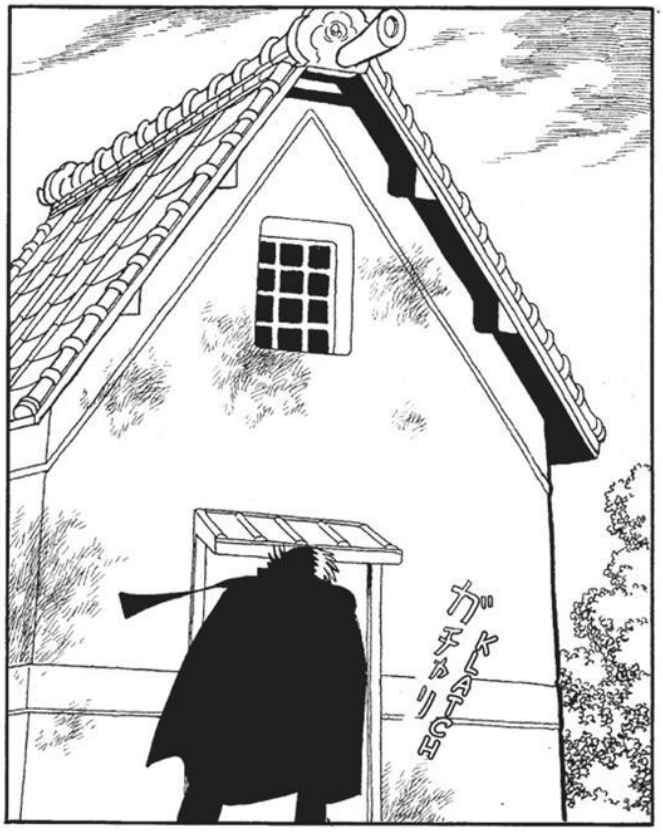

HE ASKED ABOUT THE STORE-HOUSE.
OH ...
JUST A FLUKE, I'M SURE.


YOU OKAY ?
YEAH ...


AND THE KEY ? YOU HAVE IT?
IT'S IN THE DRAWER OF MY DESK.

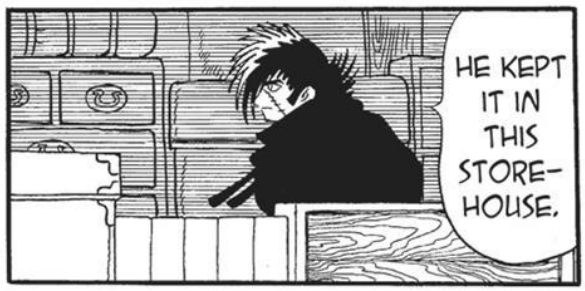
I GUESS. BUT HE ISN'T THE SLOPPY KIND.

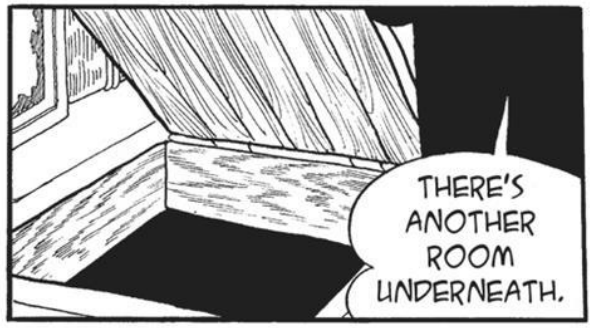
HE CAN'T POSSIBLY KNOW ABOUT IT.


ガチャリ

KLINK
ジャラ
ズーン
ジャラ

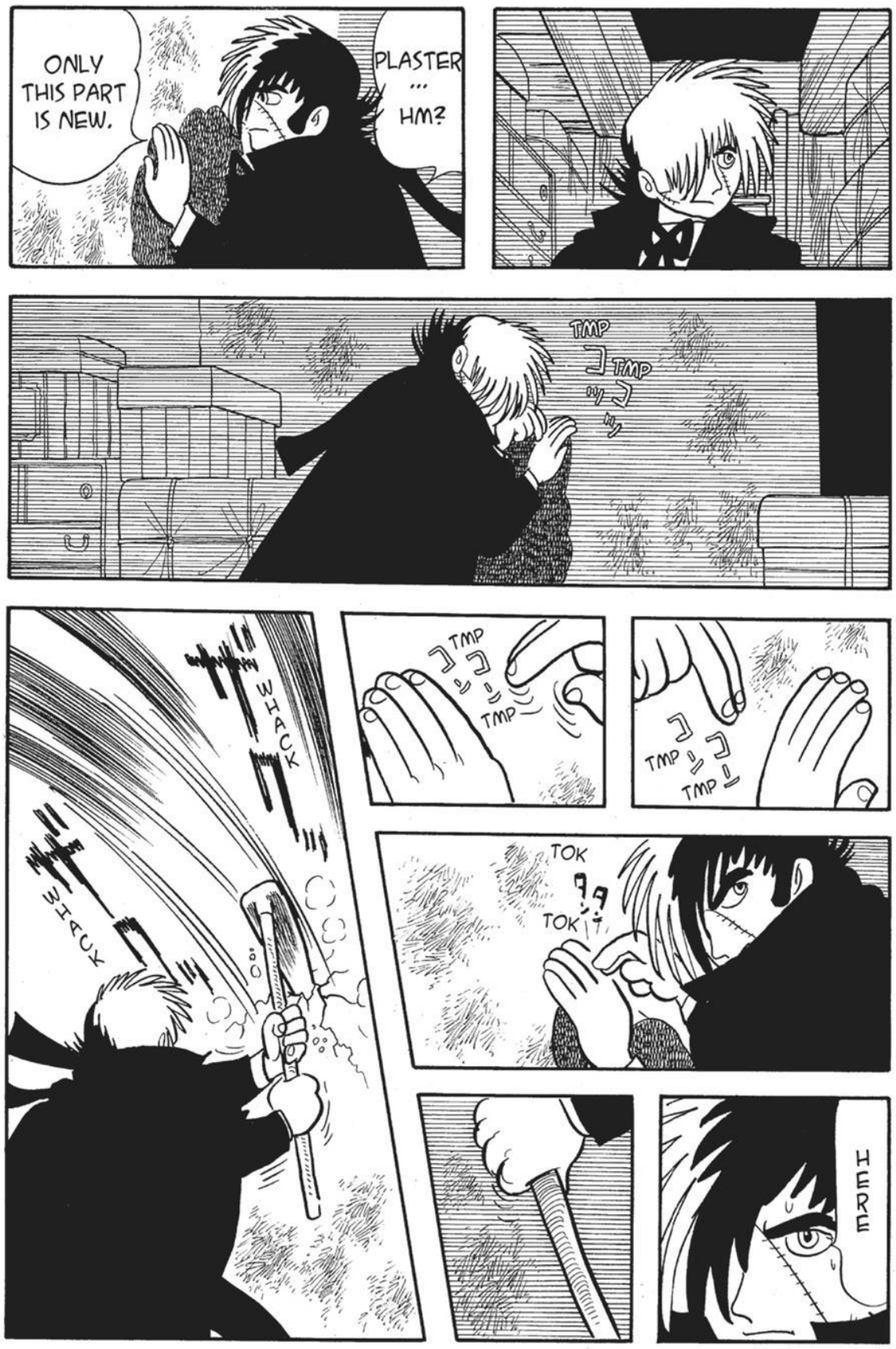
IS CLEARLY MR. NEKO-GAMI HIMSELF.
THE AUTHOR OF THAT DIARY

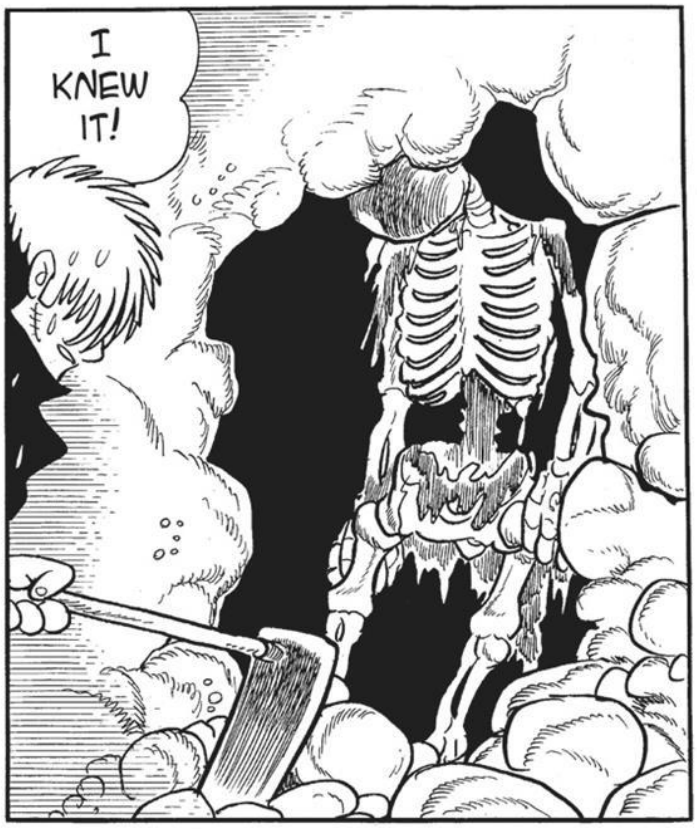

HE KEPT IT IN THIS STORE-HOUSE.


THERE'S ANOTHER ROOM UNDERNEATH.

KREAK

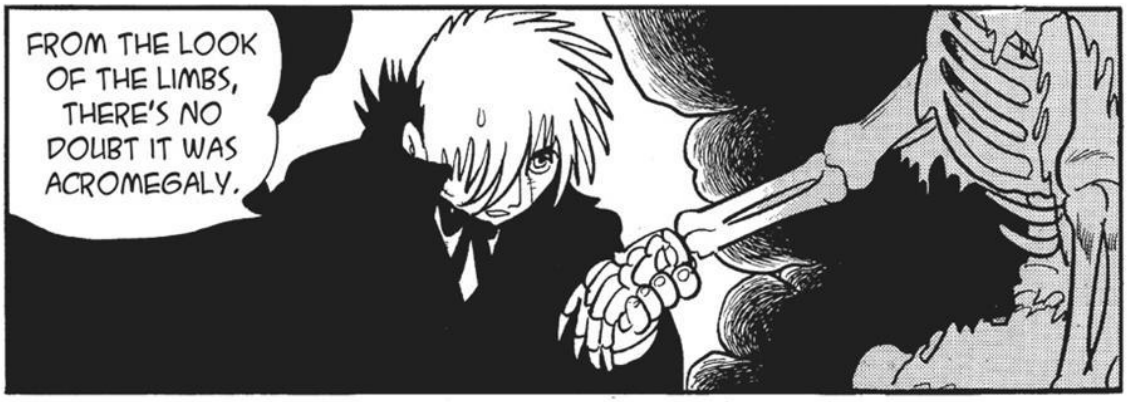
HERE LIES THE TRUTH, IF THERE'S ANY TO BE FOUND.

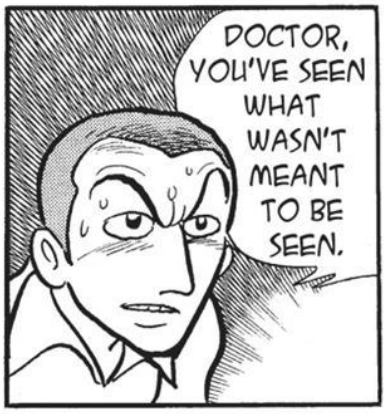

ONLY THIS PART IS NEW.
PLASTER ... HM?
TMP
TMP
TMP
TMP
TMP
TMP
WHACK
WHACK
TOK
TOK
HERE


I KNEW IT!

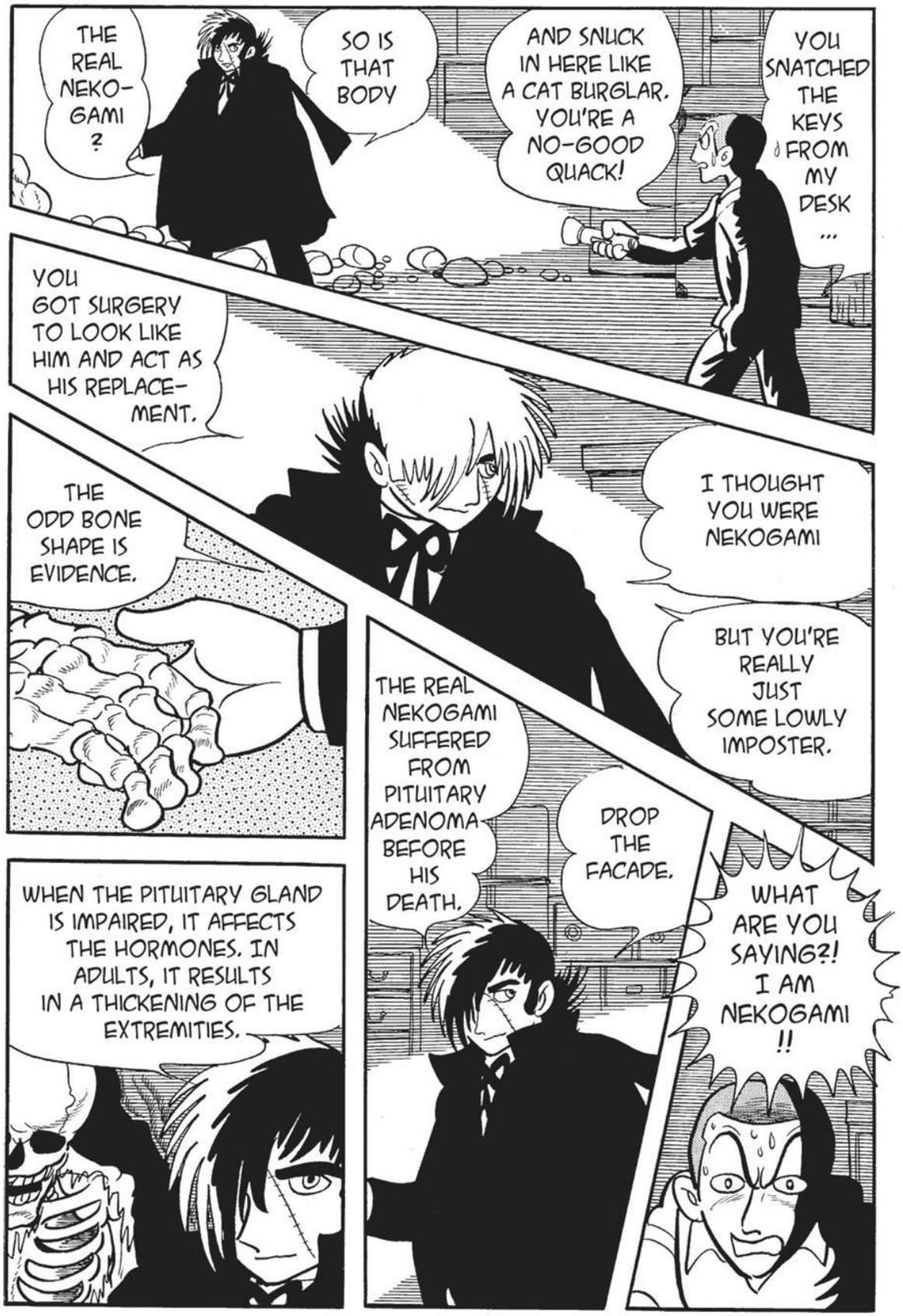
KLATTER
WHACK
KLATTER

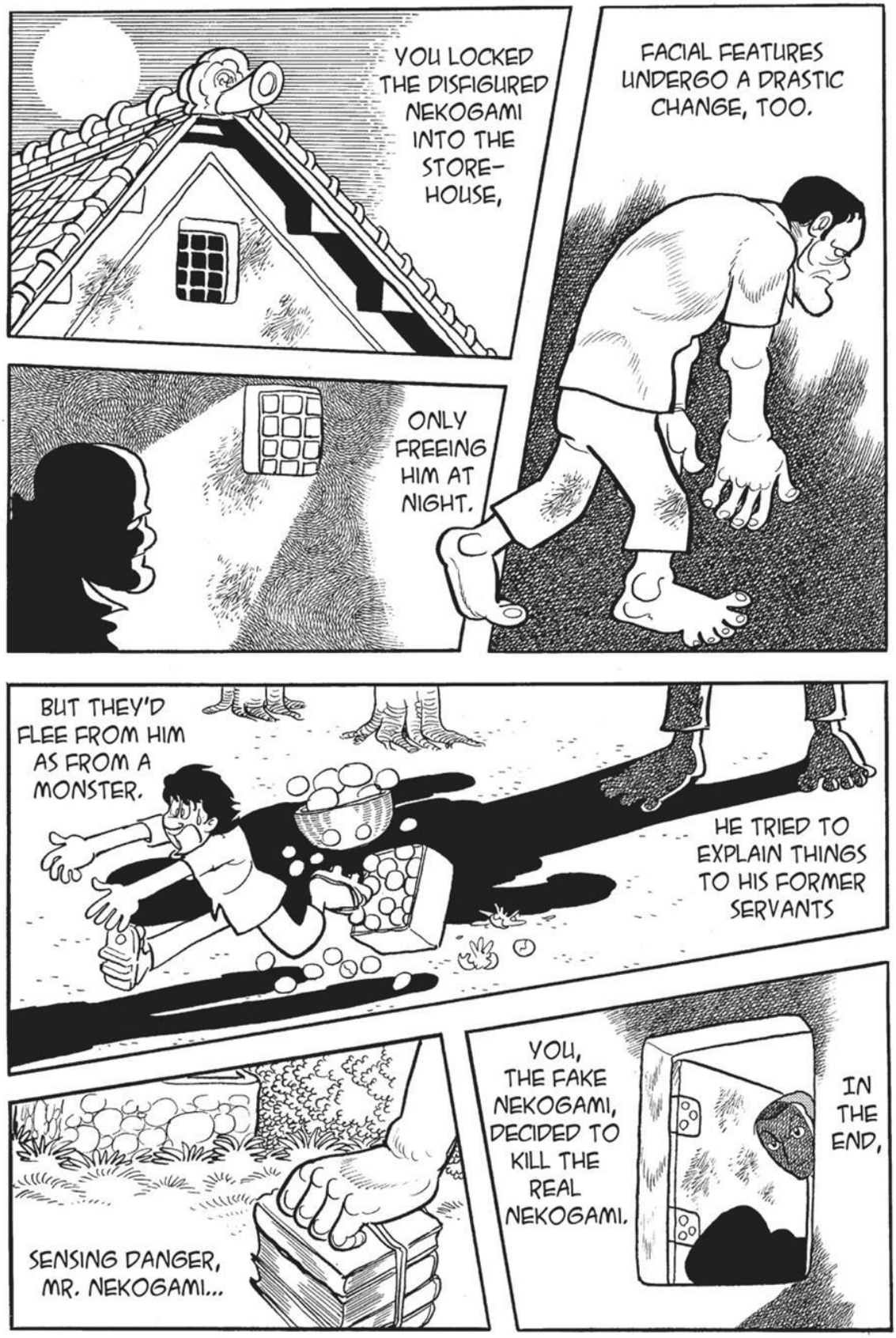
WHACK
KRUMBLE


FROM THE LOOK OF THE LIMBS, THERE'S NO DOUBT IT WAS ACROMEGALY.

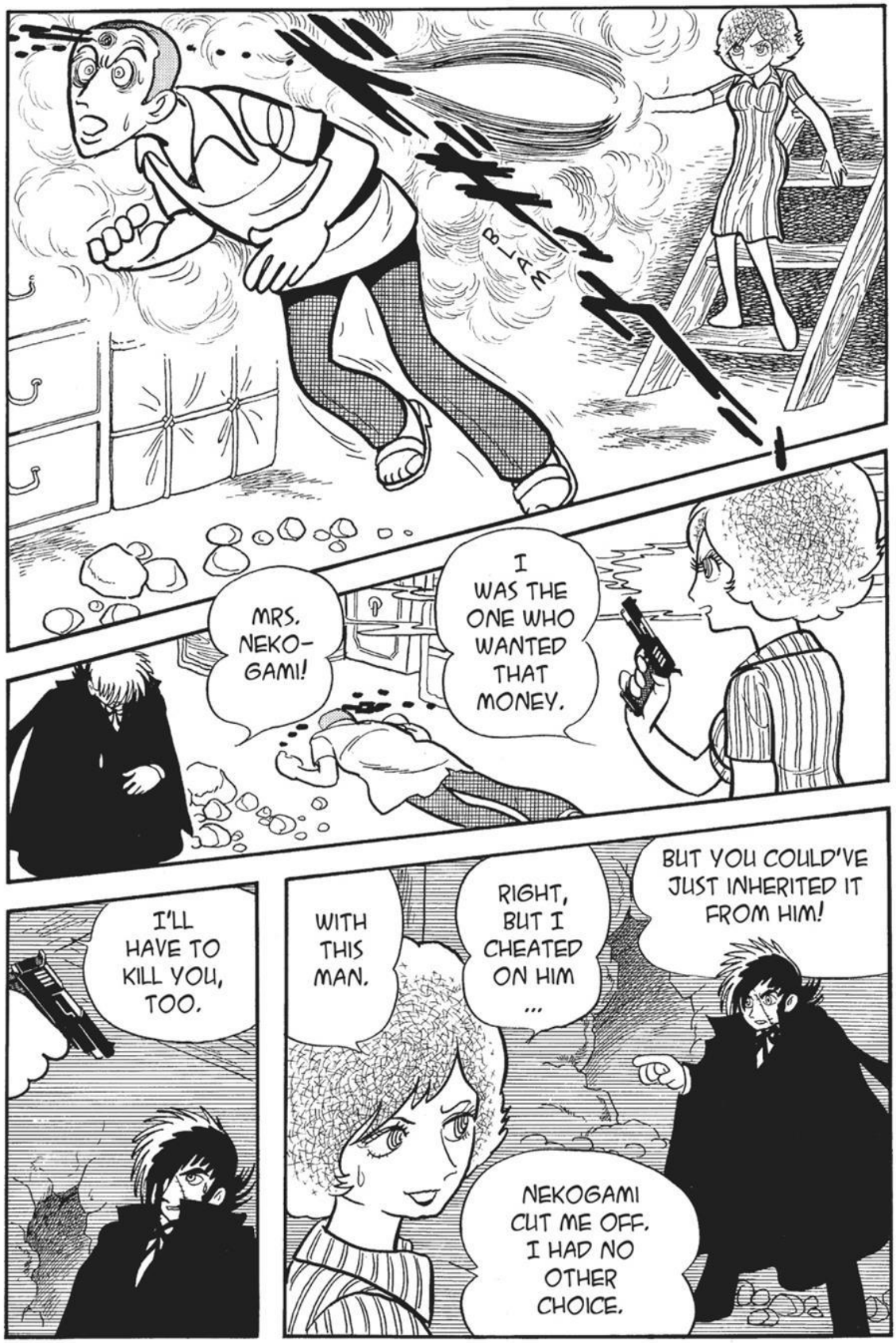

DOCTOR, YOU'VE SEEN WHAT WASN'T MEANT TO BE SEEN.

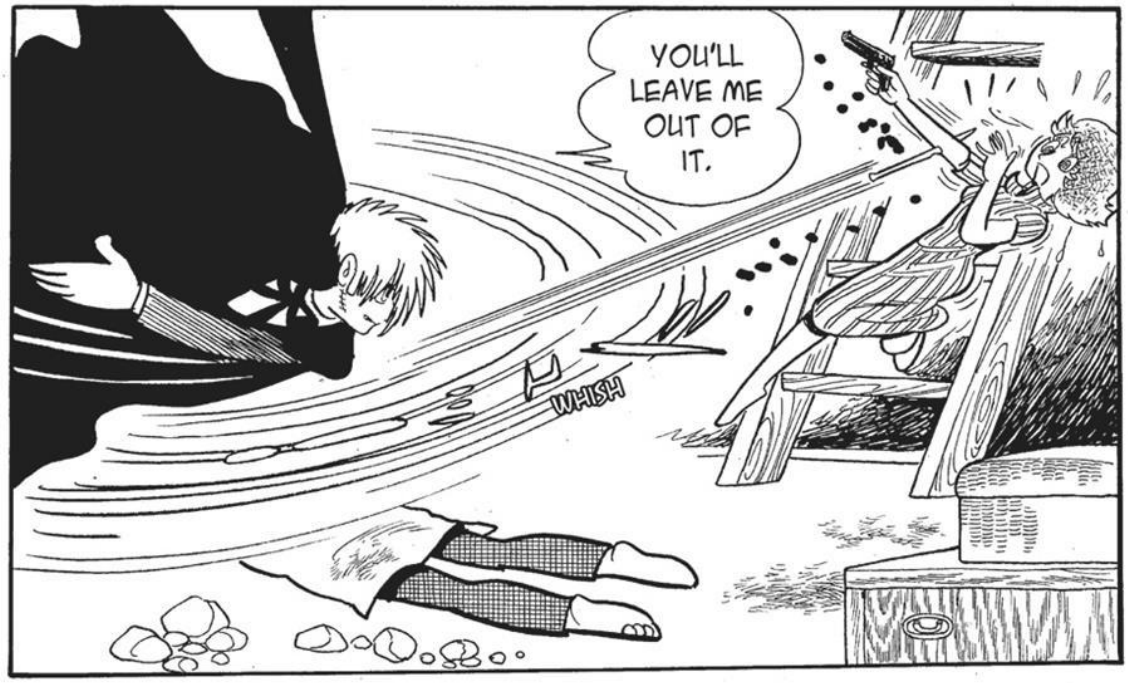
GASP

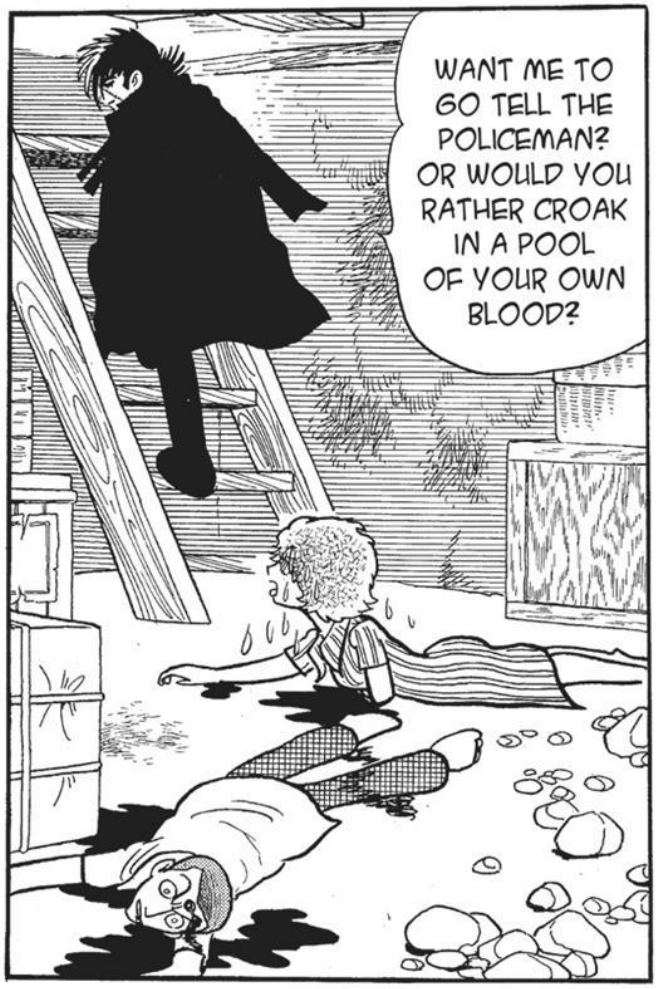

THE REAL NEKO-GAMI ?
SO IS THAT BODY
AND SNUCK IN HERE LIKE A CAT BURGLAR. YOU'RE A NO-GOOD QUACK!
YOU SNATCHED THE KEYS FROM MY DESK ...
YOU GOT SURGERY TO LOOK LIKE HIM AND ACT AS HIS REPLACE-MENT.
THE ODD BONE SHAPE IS EVIDENCE.
I THOUGHT YOU WERE NEKOGAMI
BUT YOU'RE REALLY JUST SOME LOWLY IMPOSTER.
THE REAL NEKOGAMI SUFFERED FROM PITUITARY ADENOMA BEFORE HIS DEATH.
DROP THE FACADE.
WHEN THE PITUITARY GLAND IS IMPAIRED, IT AFFECTS THE HORMONES. IN ADULTS, IT RESULTS IN A THICKENING OF THE EXTREMITIES.
WHAT ARE YOU SAYING?! I AM NEKOGAMI !!


YOU LOCKED THE DISFIGURED NEKOGAMI INTO THE STORE-HOUSE,
FACIAL FEATURES UNDERGO A DRASTIC CHANGE, TOO.
ONLY FREEING HIM AT NIGHT.
BUT THEY'D FLEE FROM HIM AS FROM A MONSTER.
HE TRIED TO EXPLAIN THINGS TO HIS FORMER SERVANTS
SENSING DANGER, MR. NEKOGAMI...
YOU, THE FAKE NEKOGAMI, DECIDED TO KILL THE REAL NEKOGAMI.
IN THE END,

I FOUND THE LETTER.
TOOK HIS DIARY AND A LETTER TO THE WELL
AND HID THEM, LEST THEY BE BURNED ...
YOU WERE AFTER THE NEKOGAMI FORTUNE.
HE KNEW HE HAD A PITUITARY TUMOR.
I have a strange illness; according to the doctor, there's a tumor on my pituitary. Apparently I'll not get better without surgery. My funds are not safe with
AND LOOKING INNOCENT FOR THE WORLD, YOU LIVED ON AS HIM.
HE WAS SICK, SO IT WAS EASY TO KILL HIM AND BURY HIM HERE.
I-I'M JUST A PAWN! THIS WHOLE PLOT WAS DEVISED BY—


BLAM
MRS. NEKO-GAMI!
I WAS THE ONE WHO WANTED THAT MONEY.
I'LL HAVE TO KILL YOU, TOO.
WITH THIS MAN.
RIGHT, BUT I CHEATED ON HIM ...
BUT YOU COULD'VE JUST INHERITED IT FROM HIM!
NEKOGAMI CUT ME OFF. I HAD NO OTHER CHOICE.

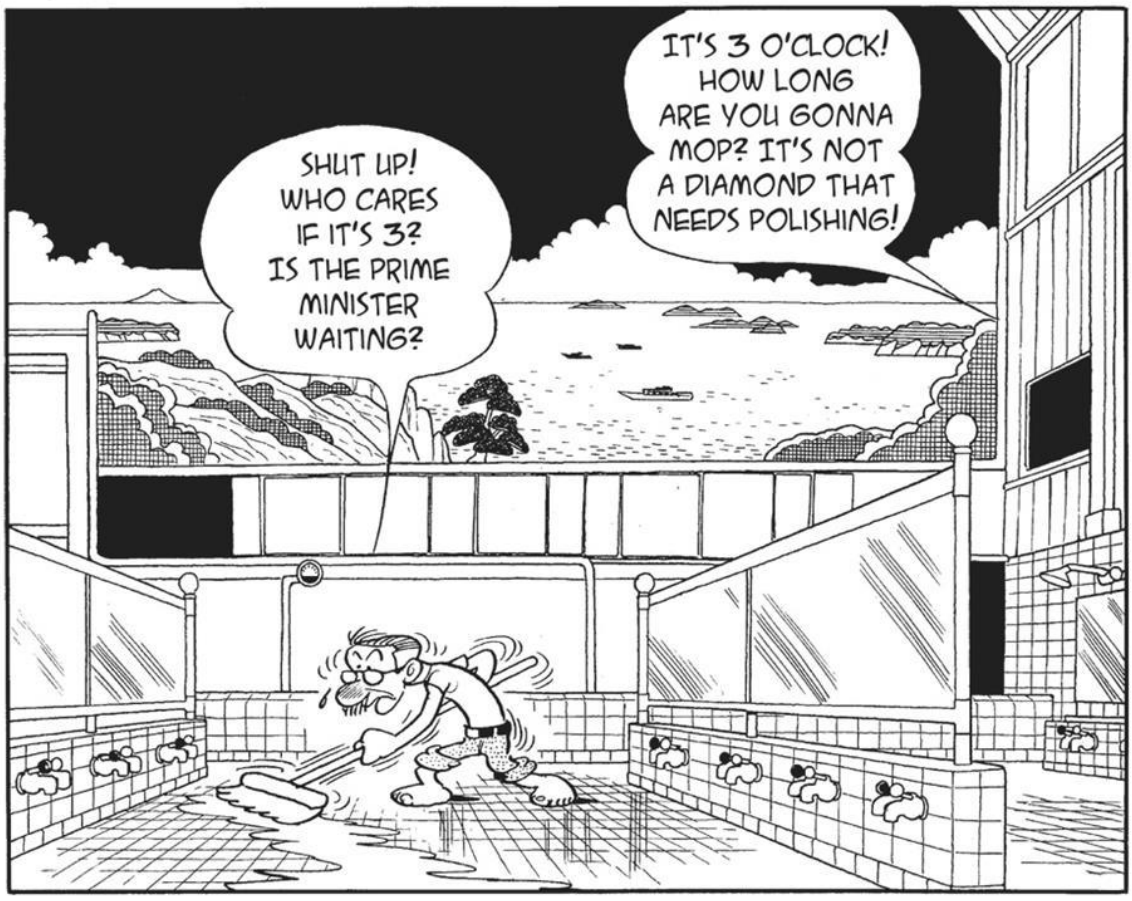

YOU'LL LEAVE ME OUT OF IT.
WHISH


WANT ME TO GO TELL THE POLICEMAN? OR WOULD YOU RATHER CROAK IN A POOL OF YOUR OWN BLOOD?

THOK

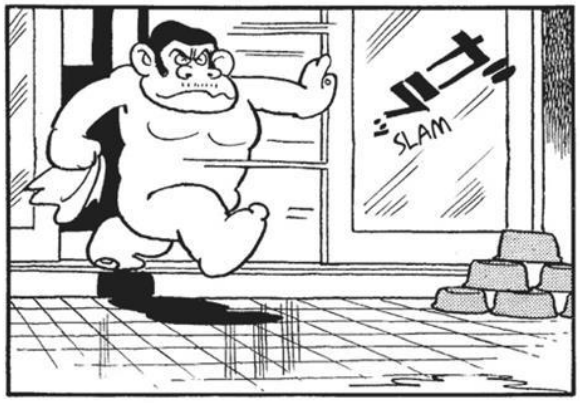
I GOT MY FEE. I'VE NO MORE BUSINESS HERE.

BATH OF THE FLOATING WORLD


IT'S 3 O'CLOCK! HOW LONG ARE YOU GONNA MOP? IT'S NOT A DIAMOND THAT NEEDS POLISHING!
SHUT UP! WHO CARES IF IT'S 3? IS THE PRIME MINISTER WAITING?

YOU STILL NOT OPEN ?!
WE'RE OPEN NOW. DON'T KICK IN THE DOOR.

IS IT THAT GORILLA ?
WE'VE GOT A CUSTO-MER!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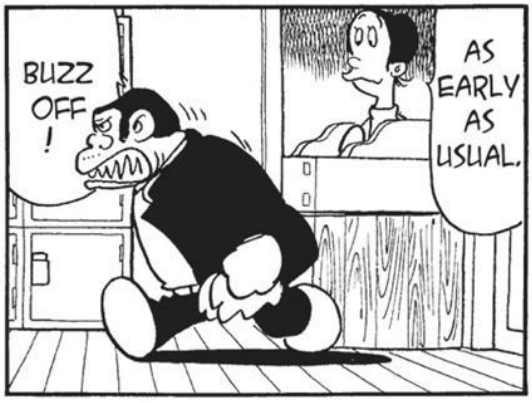
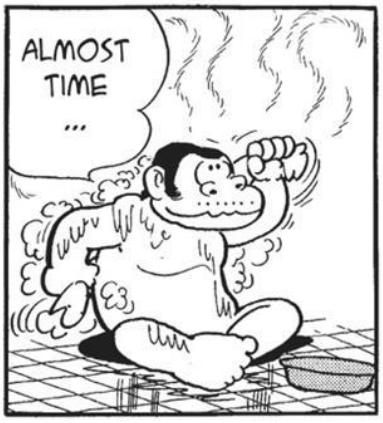
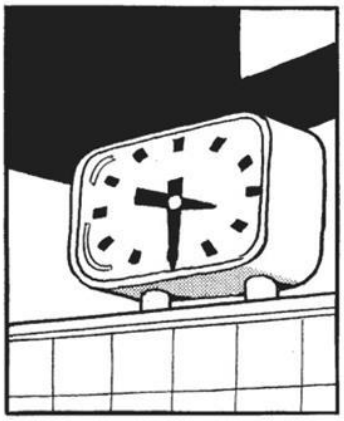
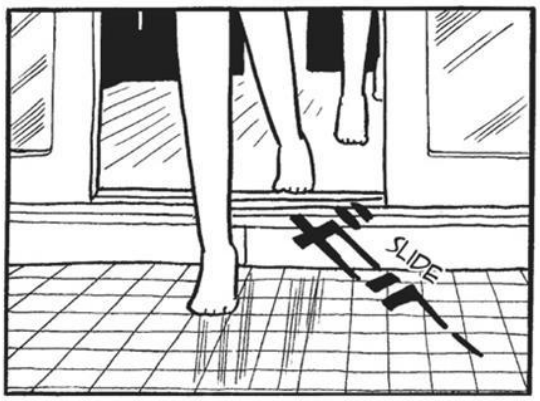

BUZZ OFF !
AS EARLY AS USUAL.

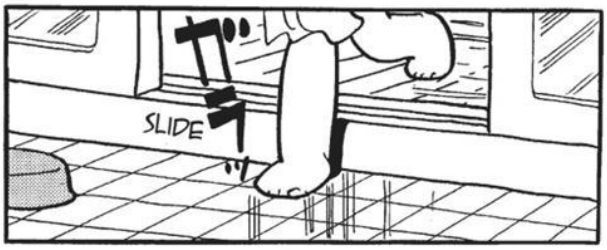

ALMOST TIME ...



OOH.

HEH HEH HEH ...
I CAN'T WAIT FOR THAT VOICE!
HERE THEY COME !
YAY!


SLIDE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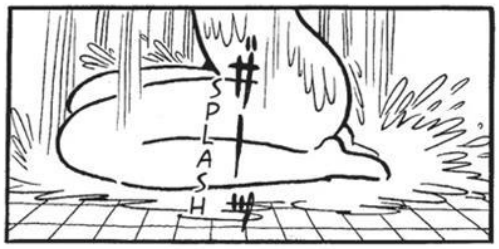
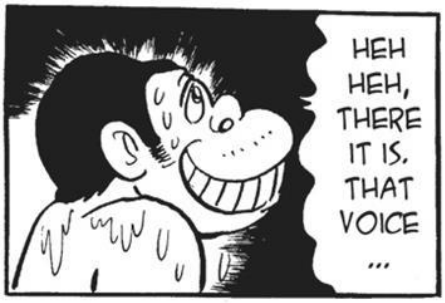
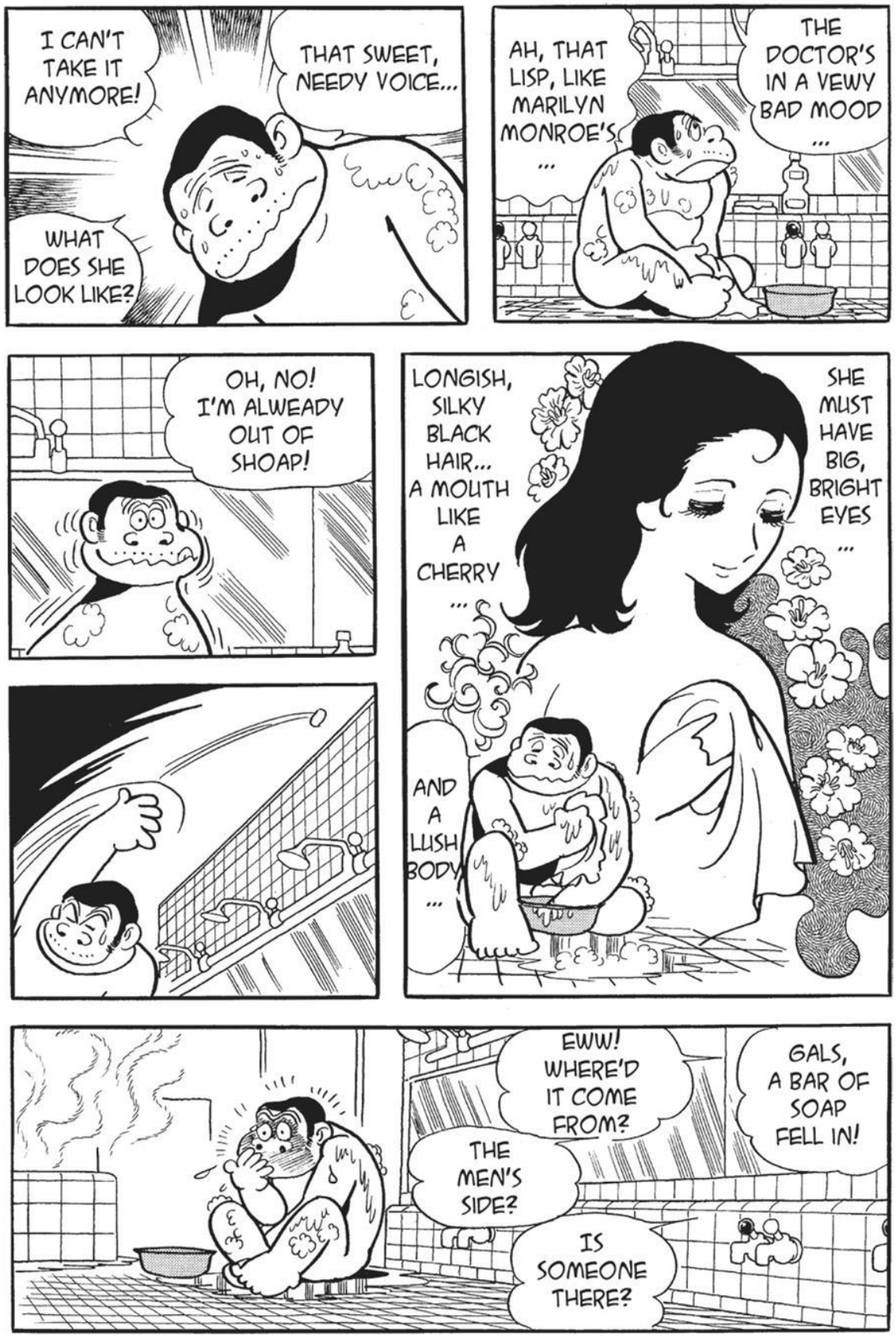

SPLASH

YUP. WE HAD AN OPEWATION.
DID YOU WORK TODAY, PINOKO?
THAT VOICE... SO CHARMING!

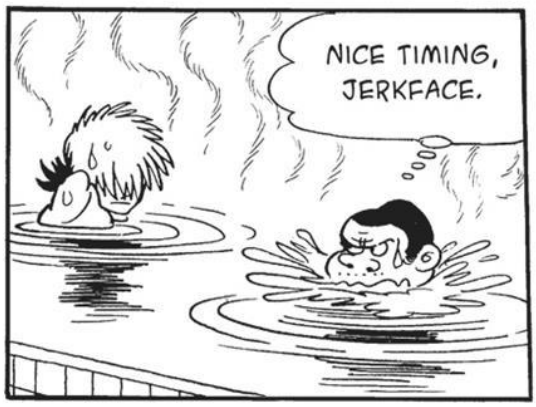
TINGLE
IS IT WEADY?

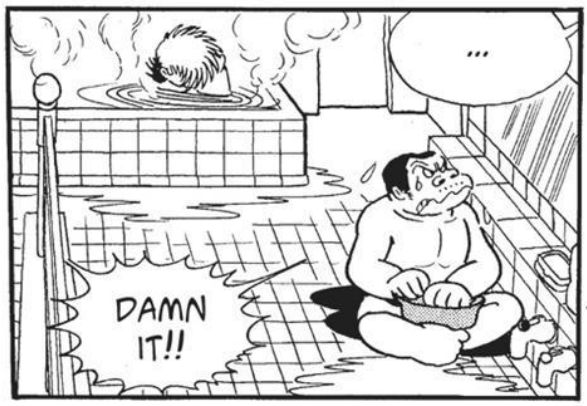

HEH HEH, THERE IT IS. THAT VOICE ...


I CAN'T TAKE IT ANYMORE!
THAT SWEET, NEEDY VOICE...
WHAT DOES SHE LOOK LIKE?
AH, THAT LISP, LIKE MARILYN MONROE'S ...
THE DOCTOR'S IN A VEWY BAD MOOD ...
OH, NO! I'M ALWEADY OUT OF SHOAP!
LONGISH, SILKY BLACK HAIR... A MOUTH LIKE A CHERRY ...
SHE MUST HAVE BIG, BRIGHT EYES ...
AND A LUSH BODY ...
EWW! WHERE'D IT COME FROM?
GALS, A BAR OF SOAP FELL IN!
THE MEN'S SIDE?
IS SOMEONE THERE?

SPLASH

SLIDE


NICE TIMING, JERKFACE.

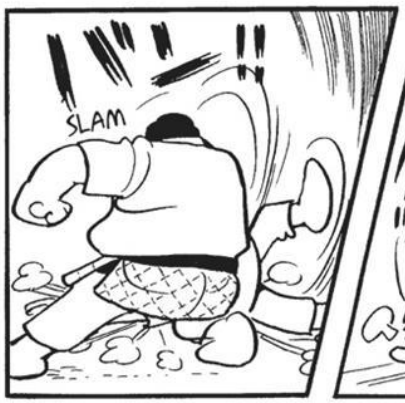

...
DAMN IT!!

FIGHT LIKE HELL!
COME ON!!

HALT!!

YAA
YAA

WHAT'S WITH THOSE WEAK STANCES?
YOU GUYS GOING OUT DANCING AT BARS OR SOMETHING ALL NIGHT?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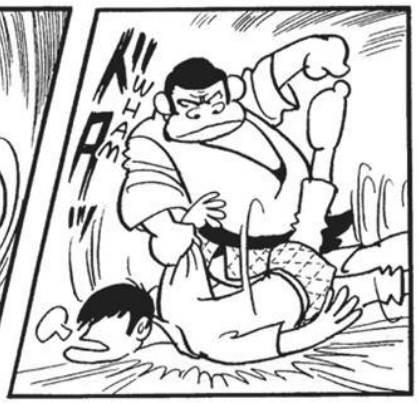

WHAM

YAMADA.

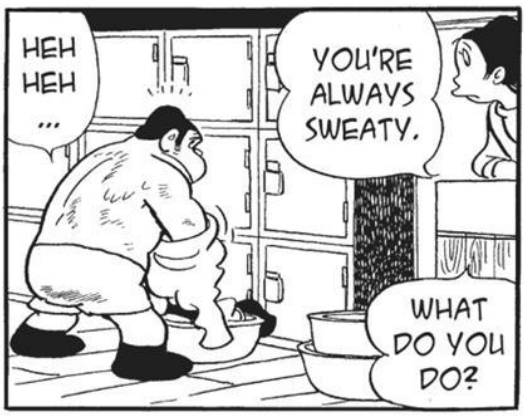
YOU'RE ALL FORBIDDEN FROM DATING UNTIL THE TOURNEY.
THIS IS WHAT HAPPENS IF YOU'RE DAYDREAMING ABOUT GIRLS!

THEY'D ALL RUN AWAY ON SIGHT.
THE CAPTAIN'S NEVER MADE IT WITH A GIRL BEFORE.

DO TEN LAPS AROUND THE DOJO!

IF I CATCH YOU WITH A GIRL, THE PUNISHMENT WILL BE SEVERE!

HA HA HA
SLIDE
HEE HEE
OH, HERE THEY COME!


HEH HEH ...
YOU'RE ALWAYS SWEATY.
WHAT DO YOU DO?

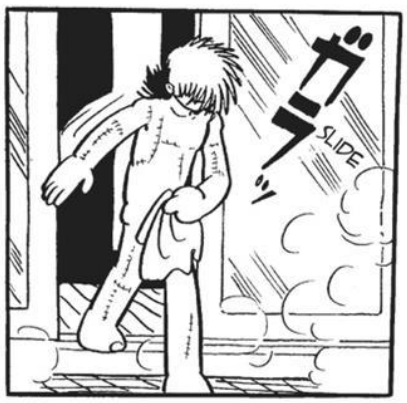
BYE BYE!
SEE YOU, PINOKO.

IT'S SHO HOT OUTSHIDE. I'M GONNA WASH UP FIWST.
YIPPEE! THAT VOICE!

NAH, IT MAKES ME BLUSH...
I SHOULD SAY SOME-THING.
AND IT'S TOO RUDE ...

IT'S QUIET ...

OH, SHE'S ALONE NOW TODAY.

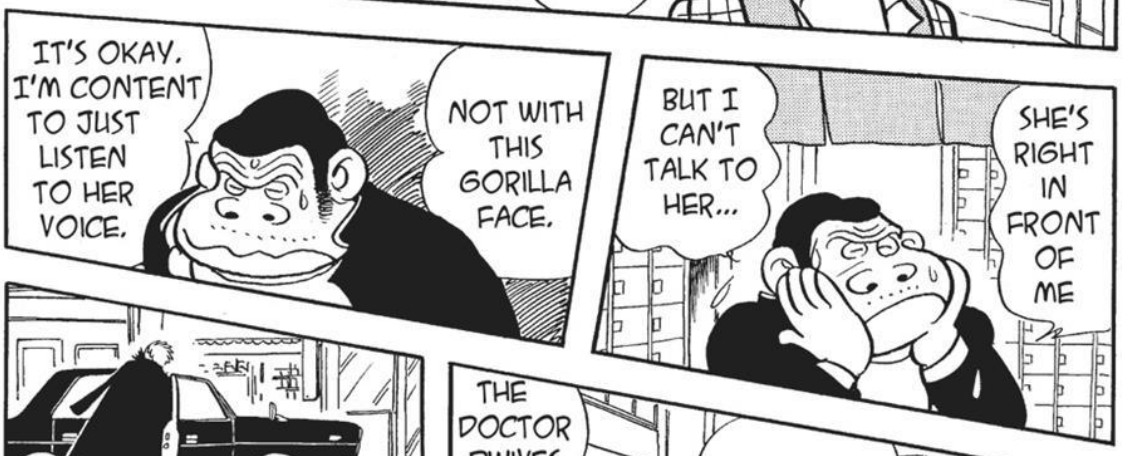

SLIDE

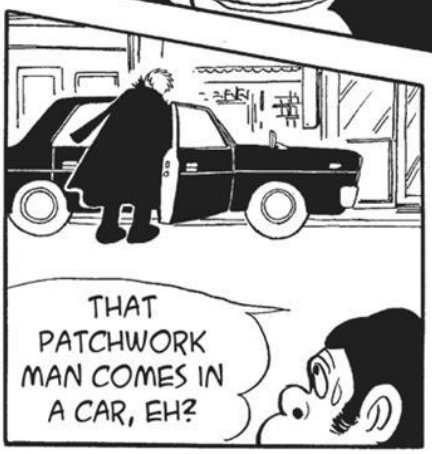
I-I CAN'T SPEAK !
AH ... AH ... AH ...

BUT I'LL NEVER GET ANOTHER CHANCE!
JUST TALK !

ALWAYS INTERRUPTING AT THE WORST TIME!
ザバ
SPLASH
ARGH! HE'S HERE AGAIN!!
I WANNA SEE WHAT SHE LOOKS LIKE.
YES, I HAVE TO SEE HER FACE.
ACK! HOT HOT HOT!
BINGO! JACKPOT! THAT'S HER! IT MUST BE HER!
HMM? GETTING WARMER!

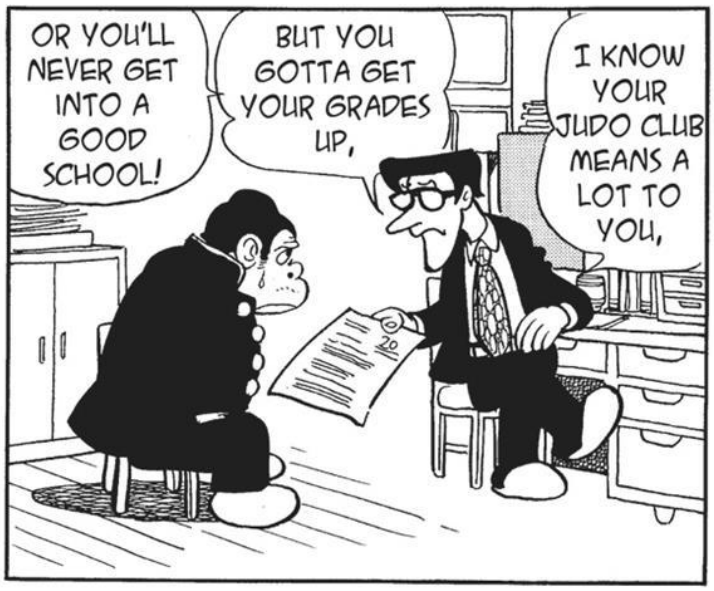
SHE MUST BE THE ONE WITH THAT GREAT VOICE!
TRIM, PURE,
CLEAR-EYED ...
GRACE-FUL, STYLISH,


IT'S OKAY. I'M CONTENT TO JUST LISTEN TO HER VOICE.
NOT WITH THIS GORILLA FACE.
BUT I CAN'T TALK TO HER...
SHE'S RIGHT IN FRONT OF ME

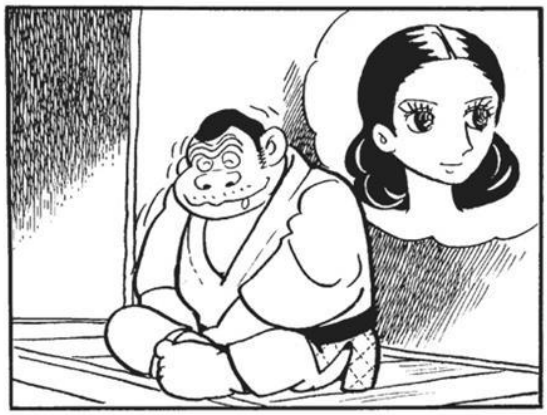

THAT PATCHWORK MAN COMES IN A CAR, EH?

THE DOCTOR DRIVES FOR US.
YOU COME HERE IN A CAR?
OH?

I DON'T CARE. I HAVE THE IQ OF A GORILLA!
DON'T TALK LIKE THAT.


OR YOU'LL NEVER GET INTO A GOOD SCHOOL!
BUT YOU GOTTA GET YOUR GRADES UP,
I KNOW YOUR JUDO CLUB MEANS A LOT TO YOU,

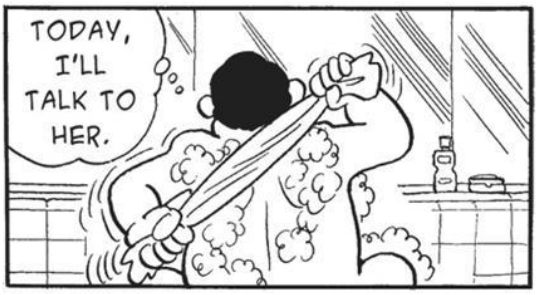
HM? WHAT? OH, RIGHT ...
HEY CAPTAIN, WHO'S GONNA FIGHT IN THE TOURNAMENT?



THEY MUST BE TEARS.
BUT HE'S DROOLING.
HE WAS JUST CHEWED OUT BY HIS TEACH.
HE'S TOTALLY OUT OF IT TODAY.

I LOVE BEING THE FIWST ONE IN THE BAF!
YOU'RE NOT THE FIRST! I WAS HERE BEFORE YOU!
WHO'S THERE ?!

SHE SHOULD BE HERE SOON.


TODAY, I'LL TALK TO HER.

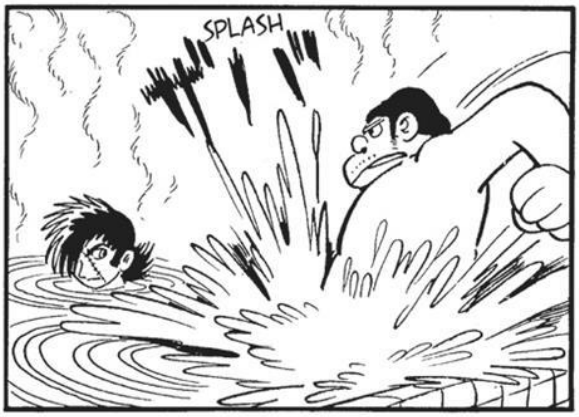
AH! NO ONE'S HERE YET TODAY!

REALLY LIKE YOUR VOICE.
I, UH ...
...
OH, FWOM THAT TIME...
THE ONE WHO TOSSED YOU A BAR OF SOAP!
...
THAT'S WHY I'M ALWAYS AT THE BATHS WHEN YOU ARE... HEH.
WHY? I DUNNO, I JUST REALLY LIKE IT.
WHY?
YOUR NAME IS PINOKO, ISN'T IT?
WOW, COOL ...
20 YEARS OLD.
BUST: 18" WAIST...
YUP, PINOKO.
I'M GONNA BE A DOCTOR ONE DAY. I'M SHTUDYING WITH DR. BLACK JACK.
YOU'RE A NURSE, RIGHT? I GATHERED AS MUCH LISTENING TO YOU...
I DON'T WANNA BRAG, BUT I'M PRETTY GOOD-LOOKING. HEH...
I'M YOSHIMASA OHIRA, A JUNIOR AND CAPTAIN OF THE JUDO TEAM.
OH, YOU'RE 20? I THOUGHT YOU WERE YOUNGER, BUT YOU'RE AN ADULT, HUH?

NOTE: AMONG OTHER ROLES, VETERAN V.A. FUYUMI SHIRAISHI (1941–) VOICED SAPPHIRE IN A PILOT OF TEZUKA'S *PRINCESS KNIGHT*. INCIDENTALLY, "YOSHIMASA OHIRA" IS A PLAY ON THEN-PRIME MINISTER MASAYOSHI OHIRA.

THEN WHY'RE YOU BUTTING IN?

YOU GOT A PROB-LEM, MISTER ?
NO.


SPLASH

LISTEN
SHUT UP.
WHAT ?!

YOU ARE! START COMING AN HOUR LATER.
I'LL COME WHEN I PLEASE.

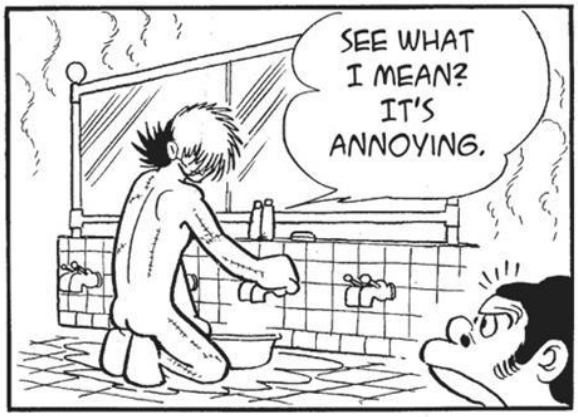
AM I BUTTING IN JUST BY BEING AT THE BATHS?

SLIDE

SORRY, I'M NOT A YAKUZA.
IF I MAY THOUGH WE'RE NOT CLOTHED, WHICH GANG IS YOURS, BOSS?

THAT'S WHY I COME WHEN IT'S NOT BUSY!
IT'S ANNOYING TO HAVE TO ANSWER CERTAIN PEOPLE WHO ASK ME ABOUT MY SCARS.

HEH HEH... SEEING HER LEAVE IS THE NEXT BEST PART!


SEE WHAT I MEAN? IT'S ANNOYING.

S-SHE'S IN A KIMONO TODAY! SHE LOOKS SO ADORABLE IN A KIMONO, TOO!

OH! HERE SHE COMES!

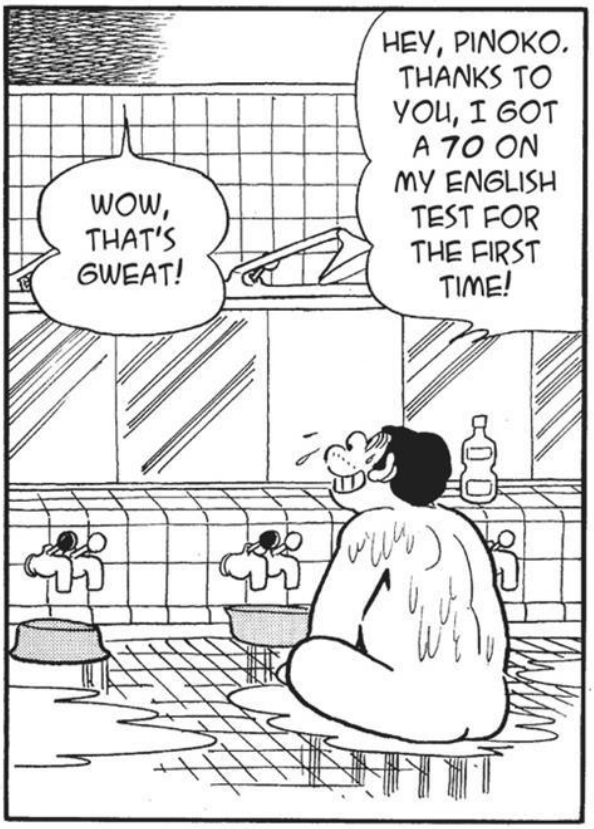
SHE THINKS I'M HAND-SOME.
OF COURSE, SHE WOULDN'T RECOGNIZE ME AS THE GUY FROM THE BATHS...

GLANCE

SHE THREW A LOOK AT ME!

YOU DID PRETTY WELL ON THIS TEST, TOO. WHAT'S GOING ON HERE?
OHIRA, YOU'RE REALLY HUSTLING THESE DAYS.

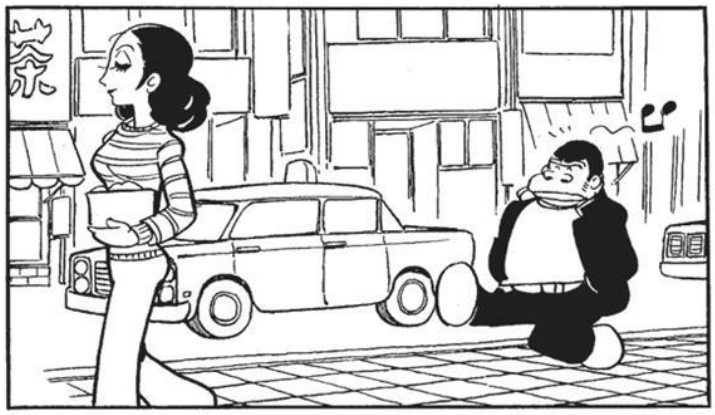
THE JUDO CLUB IS SO OUT OF IT THAT WE ENDED UP LOSING IN THE TOURNAMENT.
TSK, THANKS TO THAT,


HEY, PINOKO. THANKS TO YOU, I GOT A 70 ON MY ENGLISH TEST FOR THE FIRST TIME!
WOW, THAT'S GWEAT!

THE CAPTAIN'S GOT A GIRL!
I HEARD
REALLY? THAT MOUNTAIN GORILLA?

HE ALWAYS RUSHES OFF SOMEWHERE BEFORE 3.
WE'RE LOSING IT.

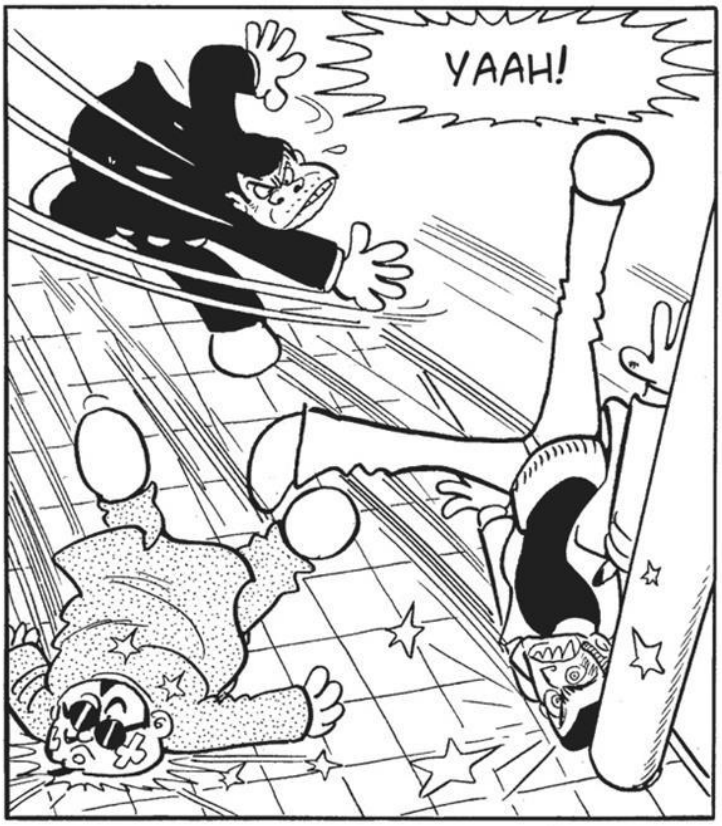
IF YOU'RE STUDYING TO BE A DOCTOR, I GOTTA DO MY BEST, TOO.
BUT DON'T PUSH YOURSHELF TOO HAWD.
I WANNA BE A DOCTOR. HEH HEH ...
I QUIT.
I FOUGHT YOU'RE GONNA BE A JUDO MASHTER.
I WANT TO MAINTAIN SOME CONNECTION WITH YOU.
WHATTA WASHTE! YOU SHOULD KEEP PWACTICING.
I... LOVE YOU ...
YOU MIGHT BE THE ONLY GIRL IN MY LIFE, SO I WANT TO STAY CONNECTED, FOREVER!
I HAVE MY REASONS !!
CAN'T EVER MEET YOU.
BUT I
...



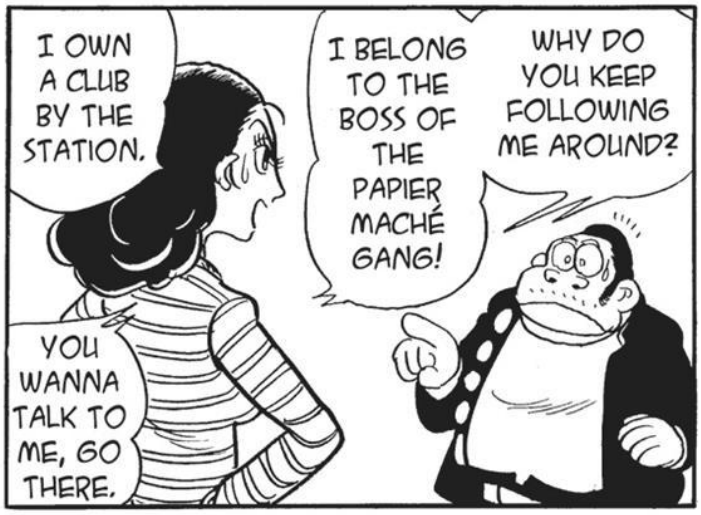
BEAT IT, SON!
IF WE CATCH YOU STALKING HER WE'LL BUST YOUR BONES.
HEY, MR. APE, WHY'RE YOU ALWAYS FOLLWING THAT GIRL AROUND?

WE'LL BE BACK!

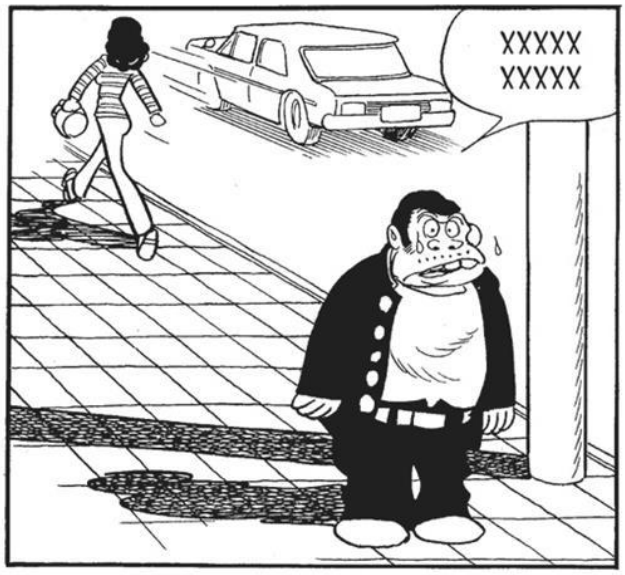
HEY, PLANET OF THE APES.


YAAH!

SHE'S NOT THE GIRL...
IT'S THE WRONG VOICE!!


I OWN A CLUB BY THE STATION.
YOU WANNA TALK TO ME, GO THERE.
I BELONG TO THE BOSS OF THE PAPIER MACHÉ GANG!
WHY DO YOU KEEP FOLLOWING ME AROUND?

THAT PRETTY LADY ISN'T PINOKO.
OH, NO. I WAS TOTALLY WRONG.
SO WHO IS PINOKO ?


XXXXX XXXXX

HUH ?!
OH, DR. BLACK JACK? HE WENT IN JUST A WHILE AGO.

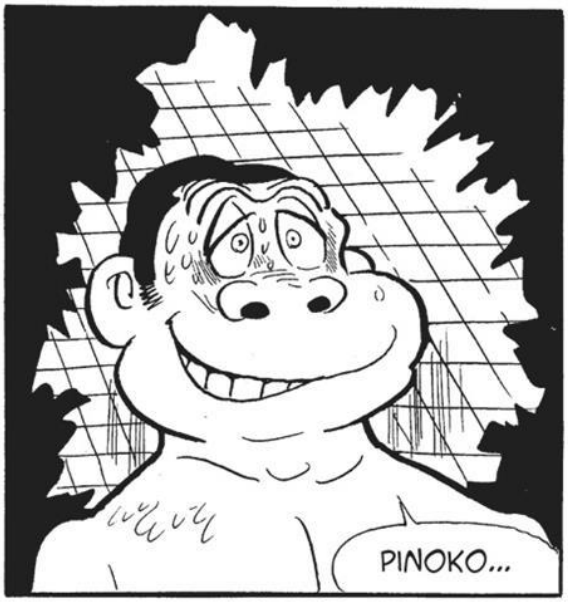
I DON'T ASK FOR EVERY-ONE'S NAMES!
THE ONE WITH THE CUTE VOICE!
SHE'S DR. BLACK JACK'S ASSISTANT.

HEY MISTER, WHAT CAN YOU TELL ME ABOUT THE GIRL NAMED PINOKO?
PINOKO ? WHO'S THAT?

OLD MAN, SO YOU'RE DR. BLACK JACK?
UH ...
MISS PINOKO'S TEACHER?
STOP SCREAMING AND CALL AN AMBULANCE! I'LL GIVE HIM FIRST AID IN THE MEAN-TIME!
A STUDENT'S BEEN STABBED!
ACK! MURDER!

PINOKO!
PINOKO!
HE'S CUT FROM THE MESENTERY TO THE INTESTINES. GOTTA STANCH THE BLOOD.
WHAT'RE YOU DOING?! HURRY UP!
PINOKO ...?
BRING ME MY KIT. THE CAR KEY'S IN MY COAT.
WHAT?
PINOKO?!
BUT IT'S THE MEN'S BAF.
WHO CARES? THIS IS AN EMERGENCY !!

GOT IT.
I NEED 20 TOWELS AND 5 PLATES.


PINOKO...

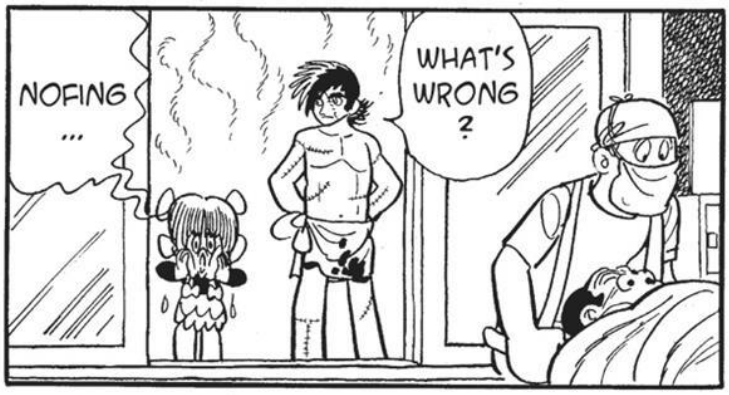
...

ANESTHETIC. XYLOCAINE AT 1%, PINOKO.

THE AMBULANCE IS HERE.
CATGUT.
GAUZE.

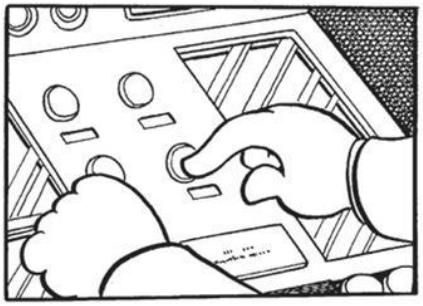
ACCHON BURIKE !!

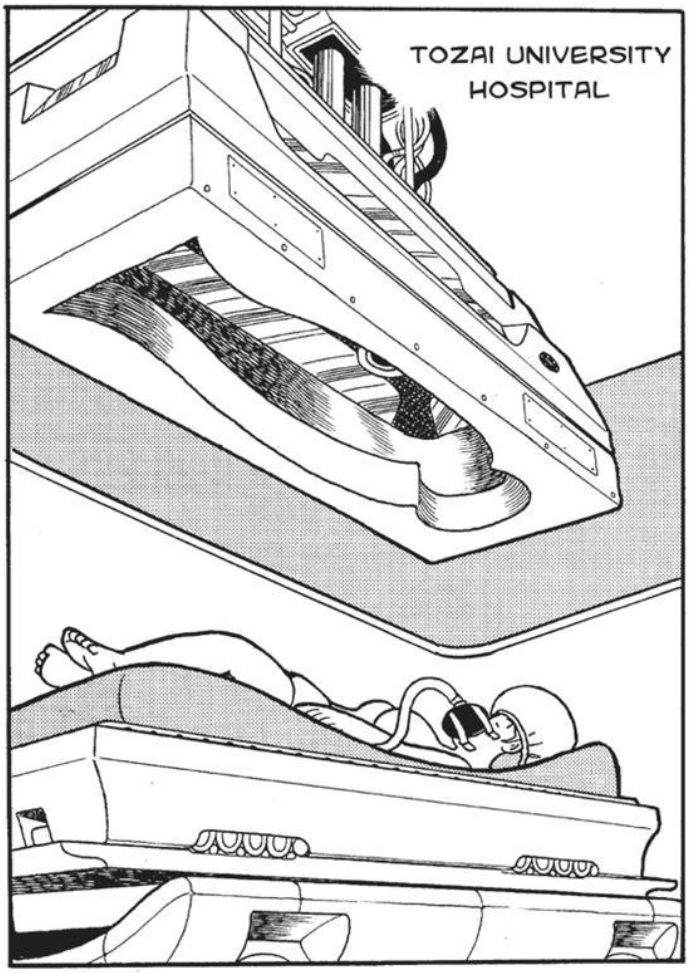
WHAT'S HIS NAME?
THIS SAYS YOSHIMASA OHIRA.

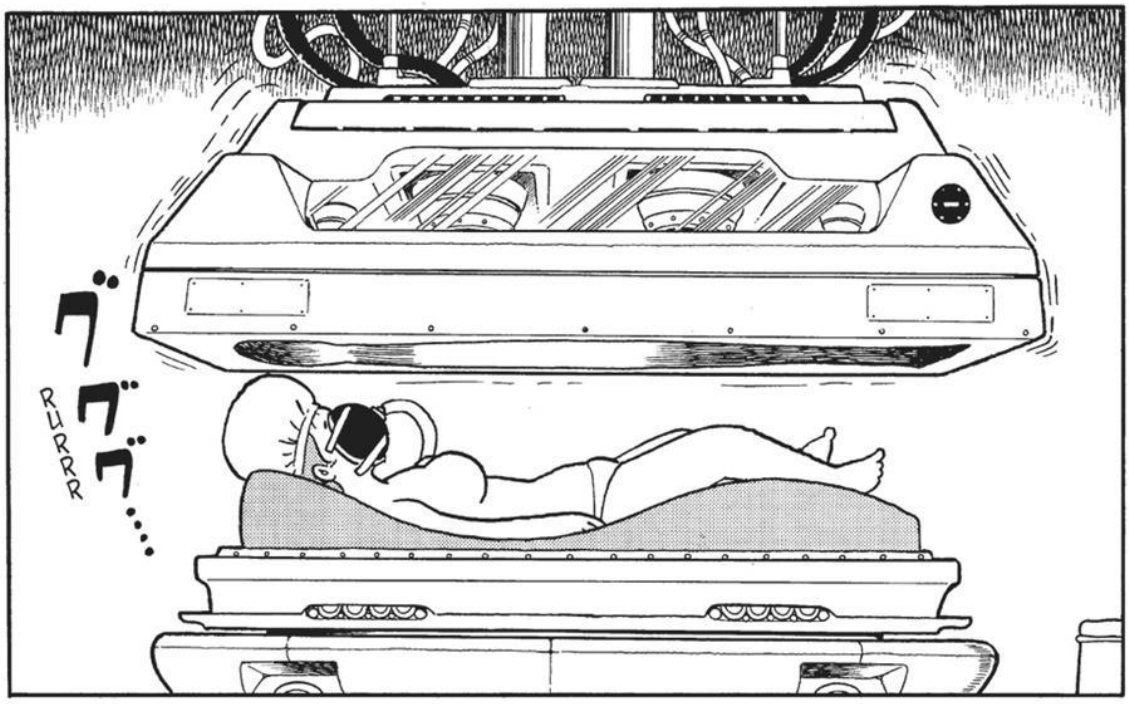

NOFING ...
WHAT'S WRONG ?

AS LONG AS I'M THE CAPTAIN, PRACTICE STARTS ON JANUARY 1ST!
YOU GUYS CALL THAT JUDO?!
ALL RIGHT. IT'S THAT DOCTOR, ISN'T IT ?
THERE'S SOME-ONE ELSE ...
WHO CARES? THAT KID AIN'T WAITIN' AROUND.
HEY, IT'S 3 O'CLOCK! ENOUGH WITH THAT MOPPING!
WELL, LET HIM IN. WE OWE HIM ONE. PLUS, IT'S SNOWING OUTSIDE...

CANCER HUNTER




TOZAI UNIVERSITY
HOSPITAL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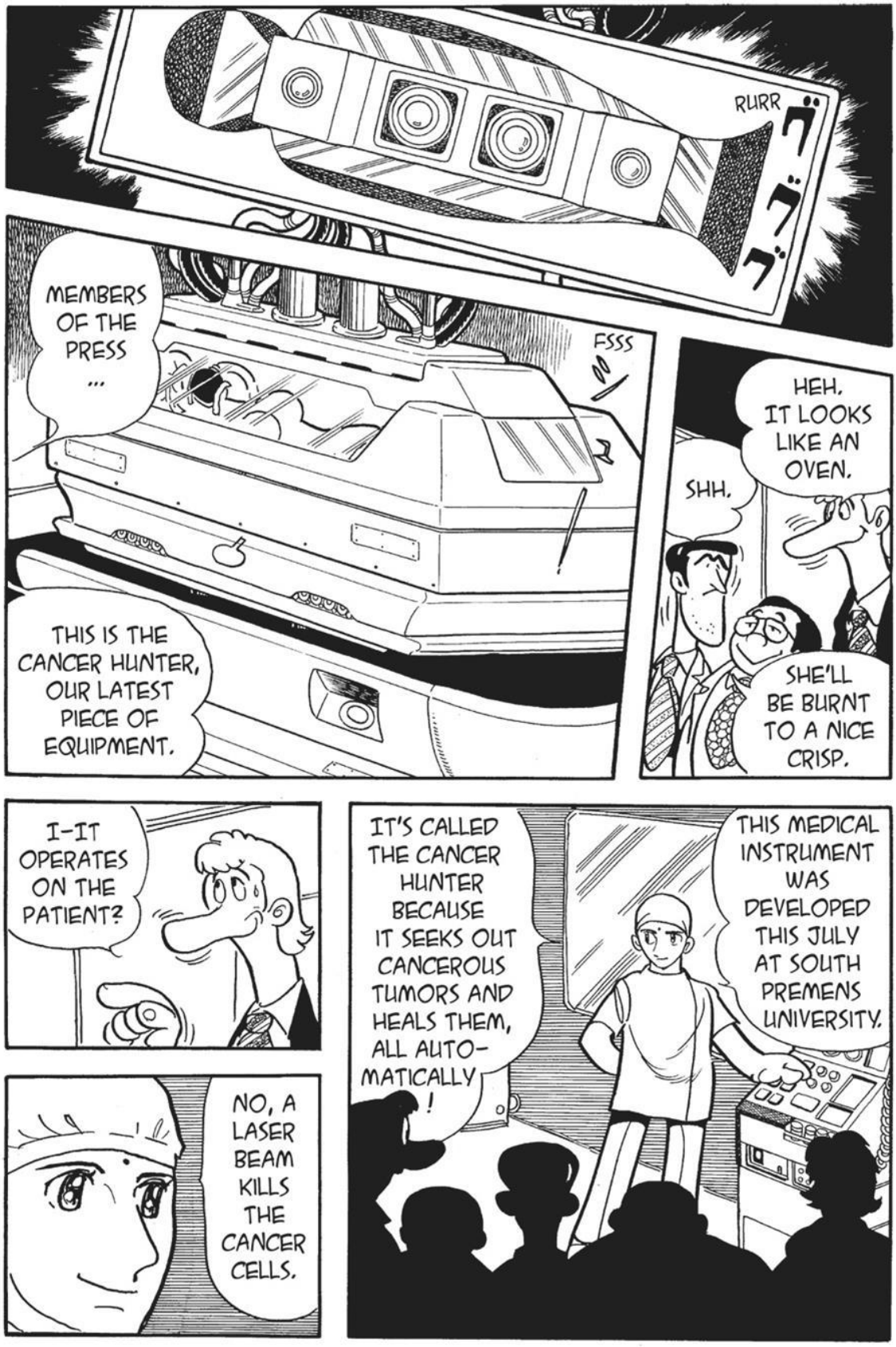
グ....
RURRR


RURR
グ
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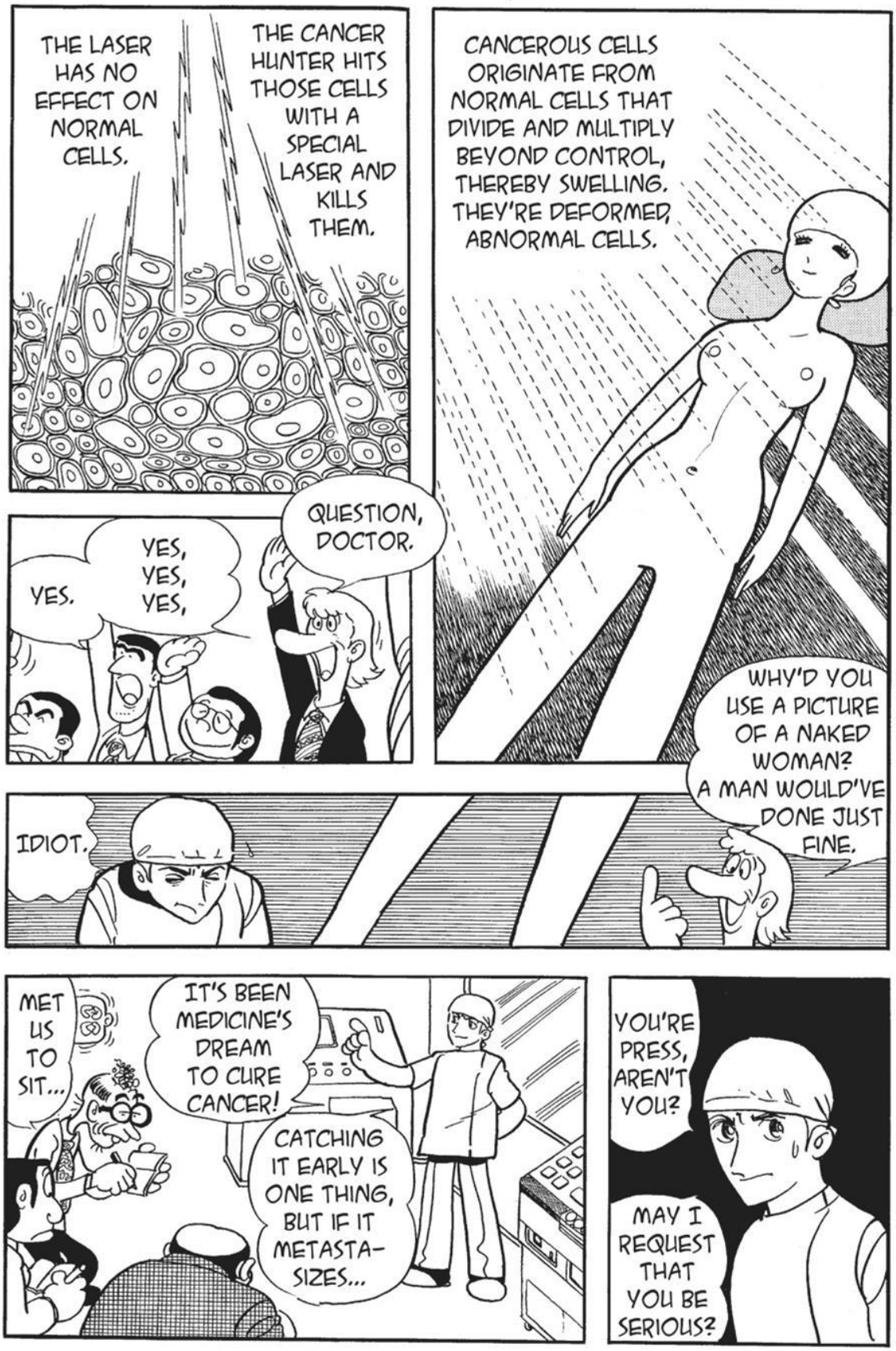
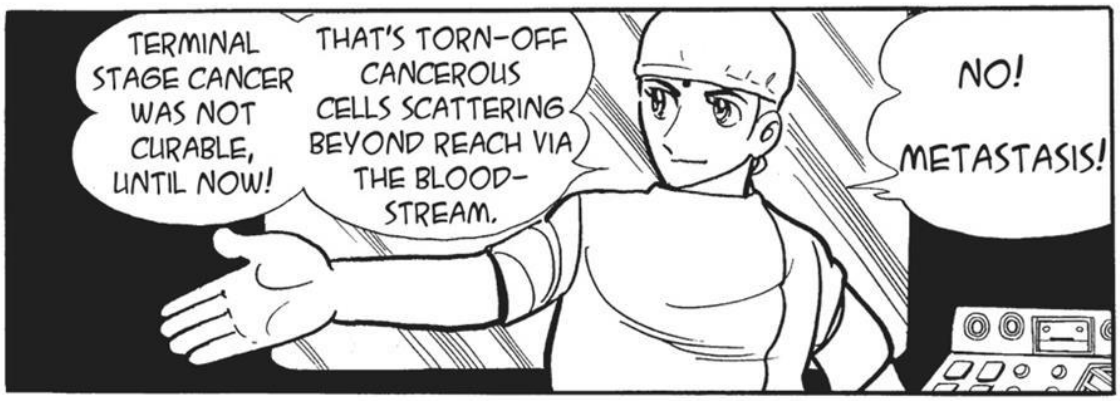
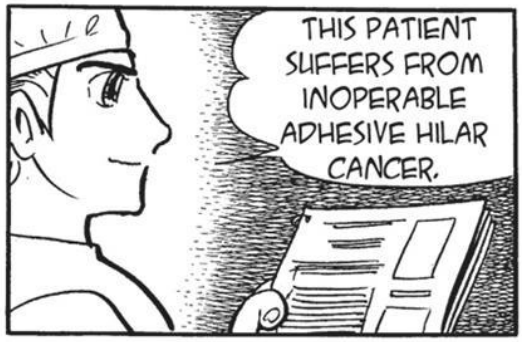
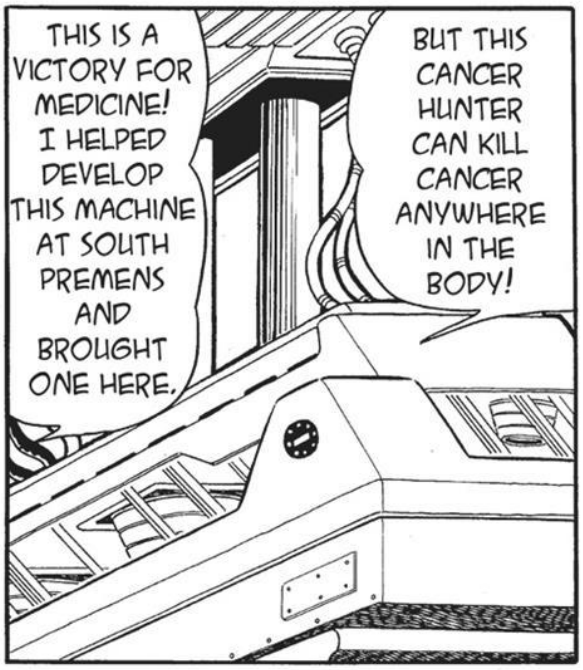
MEMBERS OF THE PRESS ...
FSSS
THIS IS THE CANCER HUNTER, OUR LATEST PIECE OF EQUIPMENT.
HEH. IT LOOKS LIKE AN OVEN.
SHH.
SHE'LL BE BURNT TO A NICE CRISP.
I-IT OPERATES ON THE PATIENT?
NO, A LASER BEAM KILLS THE CANCER CELLS.
IT'S CALLED THE CANCER HUNTER BECAUSE IT SEEKS OUT CANCEROUS TUMORS AND HEALS THEM, ALL AUTO-MATICALLY!
THIS MEDICAL INSTRUMENT WAS DEVELOPED THIS JULY AT SOUTH PREMENS UNIVERSITY.

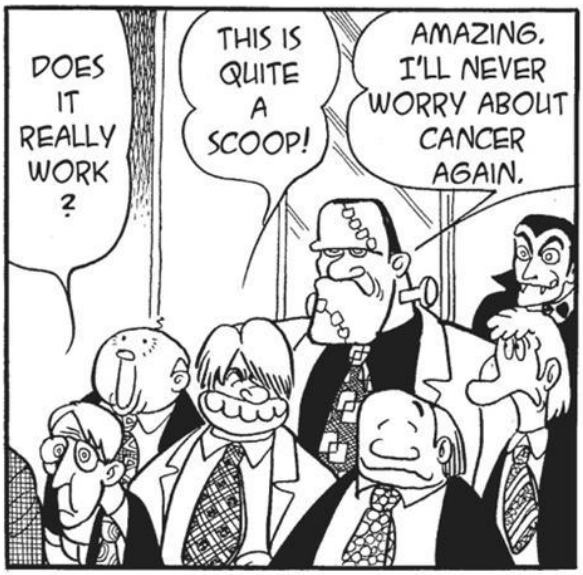

THE LASER HAS NO EFFECT ON NORMAL CELLS.
THE CANCER HUNTER HITS THOSE CELLS WITH A SPECIAL LASER AND KILLS THEM.
CANCEROUS CELLS ORIGINATE FROM NORMAL CELLS THAT DIVIDE AND MULTIPLY BEYOND CONTROL, THEREBY SWELLING. THEY'RE DEFORMED, ABNORMAL CELLS.
QUESTION, DOCTOR.
YES, YES, YES,
YES.
WHY'D YOU USE A PICTURE OF A NAKED WOMAN? A MAN WOULD'VE DONE JUST FINE.
IDIOT.
MET US TO SIT...
IT'S BEEN MEDICINE'S DREAM TO CURE CANCER!
CATCHING IT EARLY IS ONE THING, BUT IF IT METASTA-SIZES...
YOU'RE PRESS, AREN'T YOU?
MAY I REQUEST THAT YOU BE SERIOUS?


TERMINAL STAGE CANCER WAS NOT CURABLE, UNTIL NOW!
THAT'S TORN-OFF CANCEROUS CELLS SCATTERING BEYOND REACH VIA THE BLOOD-STREAM.
NO! METASTASIS!

THIS IS THE THIRD PATIENT.


THIS PATIENT SUFFERS FROM INOPERABLE ADHESIVE HILAR CANCER.

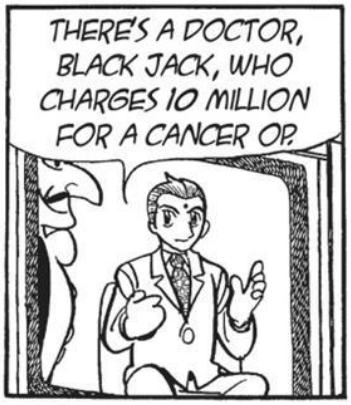

THIS IS A VICTORY FOR MEDICINE! I HELPED DEVELOP THIS MACHINE AT SOUTH PREMENS AND BROUGHT ONE HERE.
BUT THIS CANCER HUNTER CAN KILL CANCER ANYWHERE IN THE BODY!

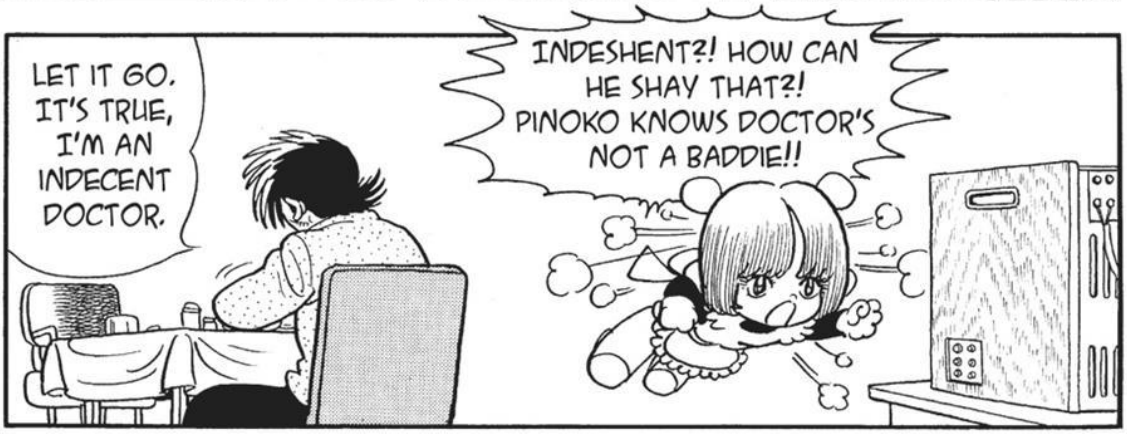

DOES IT REALLY WORK ?
THIS IS QUITE A SCOOP!
AMAZING. I'LL NEVER WORRY ABOUT CANCER AGAIN.

BUT THE CANCER HUNTER CAN PERFORM MIRACLES.
THE PROGNOSIS IS BLEAK,

IT'S CALLED THE CANCER HUNTER AND WAS DEVELOPED IN AMERICA.
IS CURING CANCER PATIENTS USING NEW LASER TECHNOLOGY...
PROF. SHIRABYOSHI OF TOZAI U.
THAT'LL BE BAD FOR BIJNESS, DOCTOR.
BY USING THIS MACHINE, DOCTORS CAN CURE CANCER WITHOUT RELYING ON INVASIVE TRADITIONAL SURGERY.
AC
CHO
EVER LEARN HOW TO MAKE PROPER CURRY?
WILL YOU ...
YOU DON'T HAFTA CWY SHO HAWD ...
SNIF
SNIF
UNTIL NOW, WE'VE HAD TO CUT OPEN PATIENTS TO GET RID OF CANCER. SOME DOCTORS TOOK ADVANTAGE OF THAT NEED.
THE CANCER HUNTER IS A REVOLUTIONARY TREATMENT FOR CANCER!

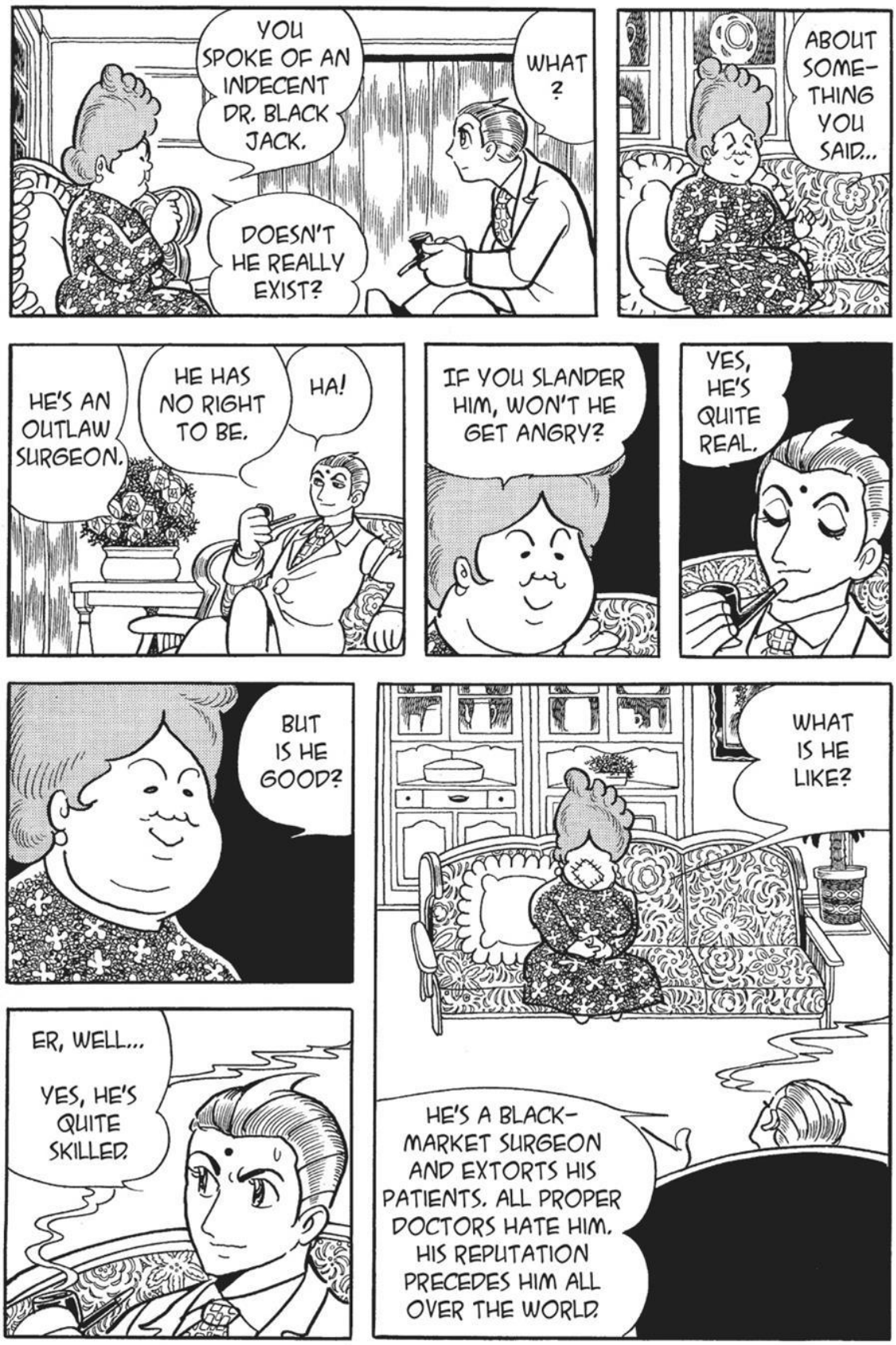
INDECENT DOCTORS WILL LOSE PATIENTS TO THIE CANCER HUNTER.

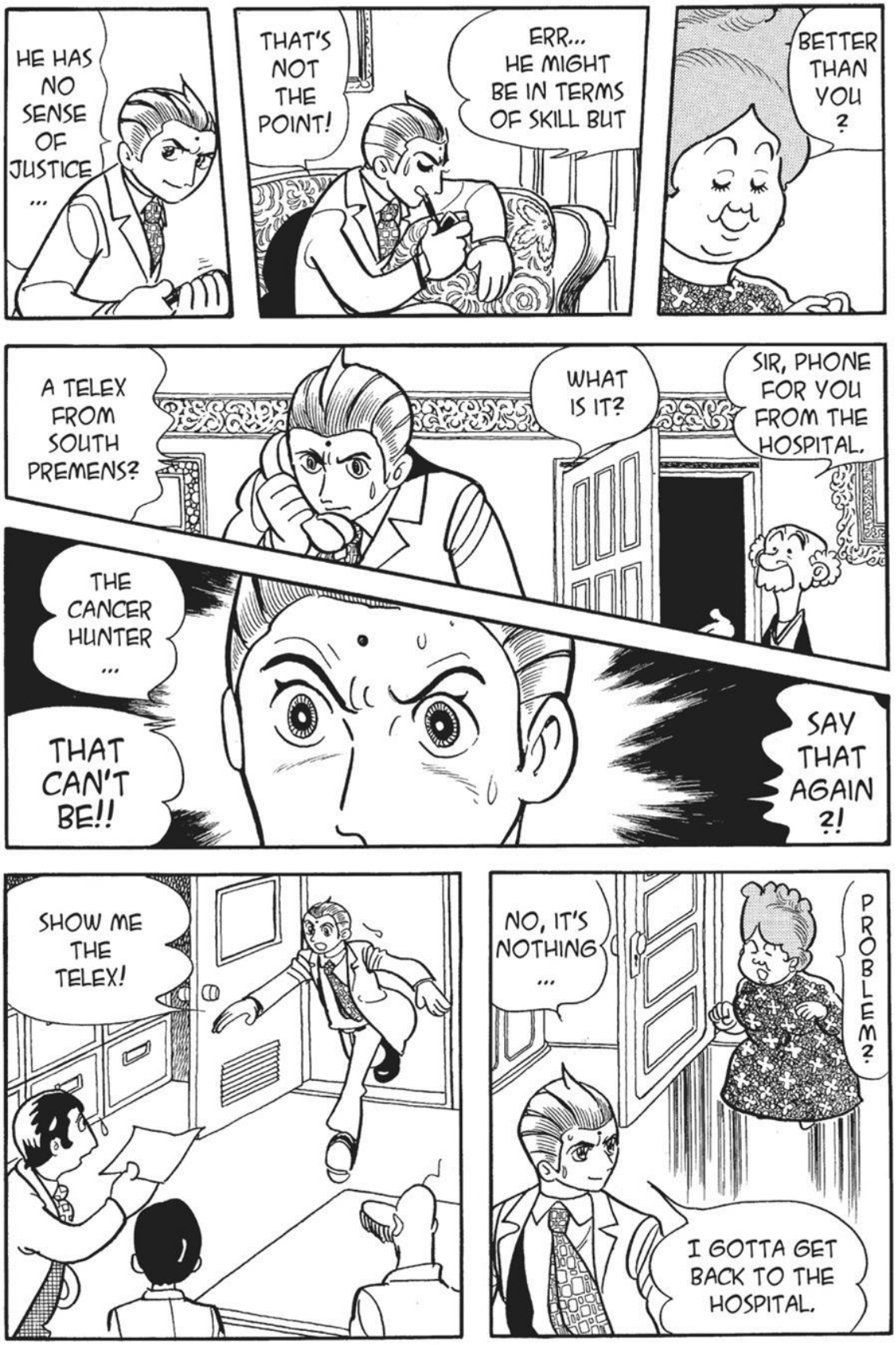

THERE'S A DOCTOR, BLACK JACK, WHO CHARGES 10 MILLION FOR A CANCER OP.


LET IT GO. IT'S TRUE, I'M AN INDECENT DOCTOR.
INDESHENT?! HOW CAN HE SHAY THAT?! PINOKO KNOWS DOCTOR'S NOT A BADDIE!!

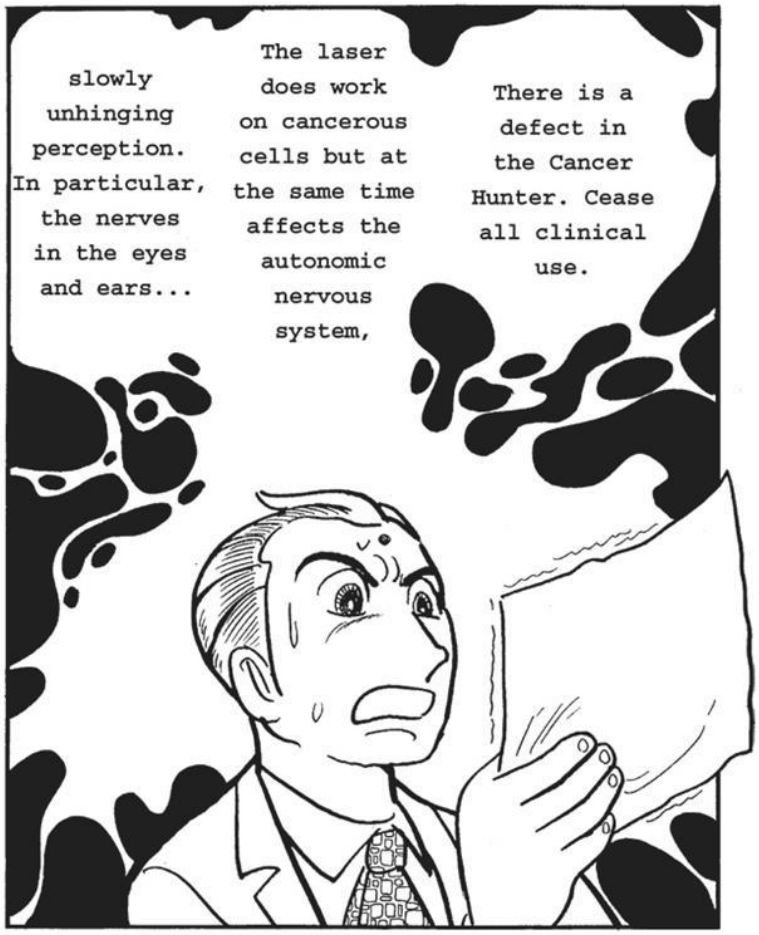
I'M HOME, MOTHER.
WELCOME BACK, YASUHIKO. I SAW YOU ON TV.

WELCOME HOME, YOUNG MASTER.

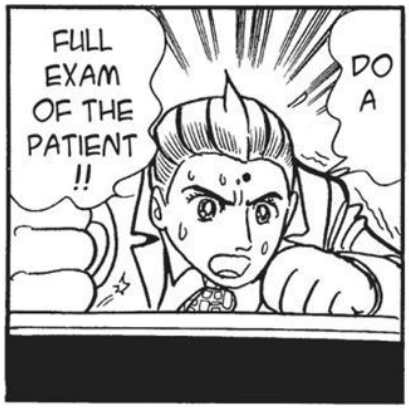

YOU SPOKE OF AN INDECENT DR. BLACK JACK.
WHAT ?
DOESN'T HE REALLY EXIST?
ABOUT SOME-THING YOU SAID...
HE'S AN OUTLAW SURGEON.
HE HAS NO RIGHT TO BE.
HA!
IF YOU SLANDER HIM, WON'T HE GET ANGRY?
YES, HE'S QUITE REAL.
BUT IS HE GOOD?
WHAT IS HE LIKE?
ER, WELL...
YES, HE'S QUITE SKILLED.
HE'S A BLACK-MARKET SURGEON AND EXTORTS HIS PATIENTS. ALL PROPER DOCTORS HATE HIM. HIS REPUTATION PRECEDES HIM ALL OVER THE WORLD.


HE HAS NO SENSE OF JUSTICE ...
THAT'S NOT THE POINT!
ERR... HE MIGHT BE IN TERMS OF SKILL BUT
BETTER THAN YOU ?
A TELEX FROM SOUTH PREMENS?
WHAT IS IT?
SIR, PHONE FOR YOU FROM THE HOSPITAL.
THE CANCER HUNTER ...
THAT CAN'T BE!!
SAY THAT AGAIN ?!
SHOW ME THE TELEX!
NO, IT'S NOTHING ...
PROBLEM?
I GOTTA GET BACK TO THE HOSPITAL.

NO, IT CAN'T BE...
I CAN'T STOP USING CANCER HUNTER NOW !!
PLACE A CALL TO THEM RIGHT NOW!!


slowly unhinging perception. In particular, the nerves in the eyes and ears...
The laser does work on cancerous cells but at the same time affects the autonomic nervous system,
There is a defect in the Cancer Hunter. Cease all clinical use.

YES, SURE...
YES...

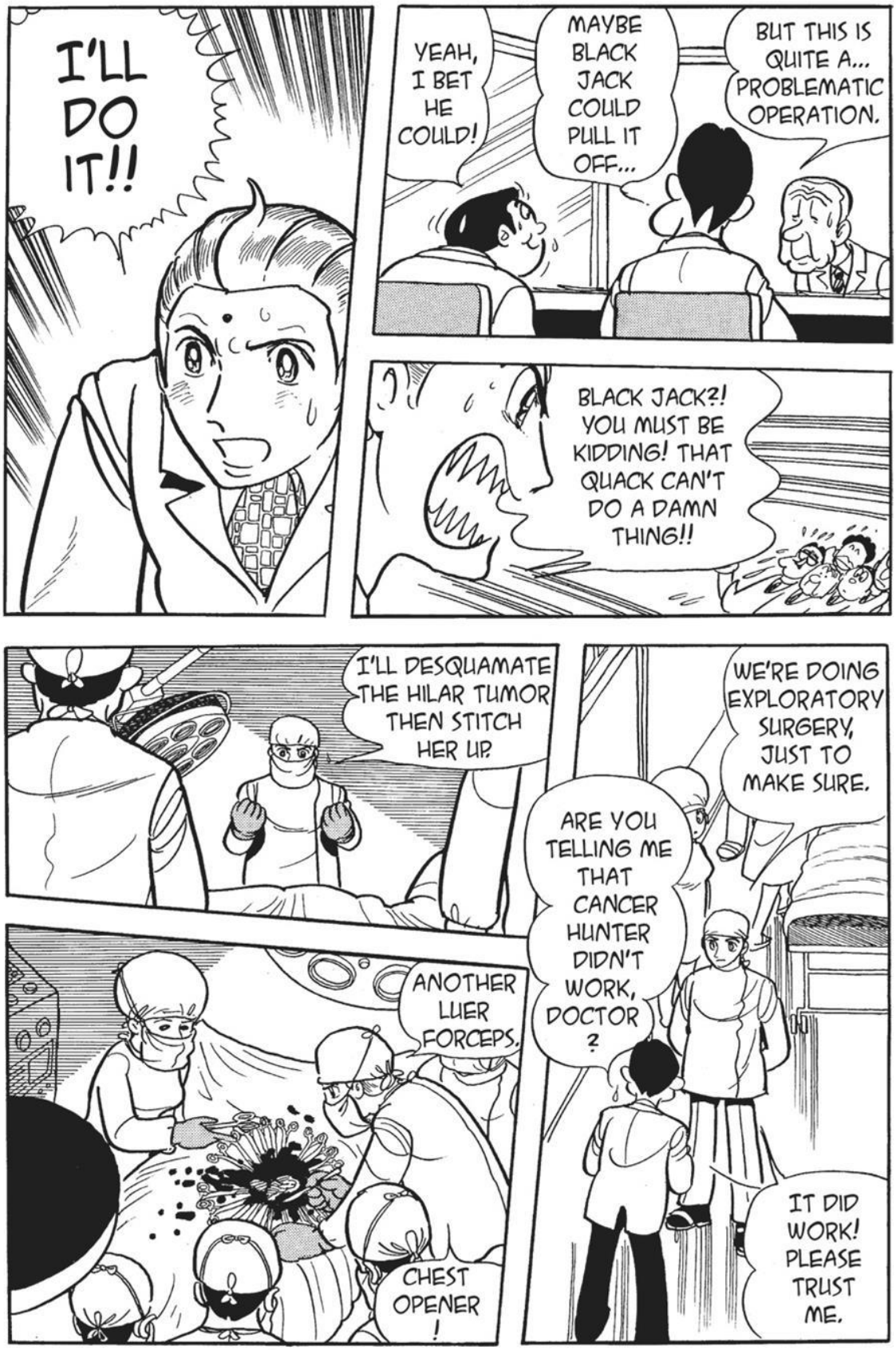

FULL EXAM OF THE PATIENT !!
DO A

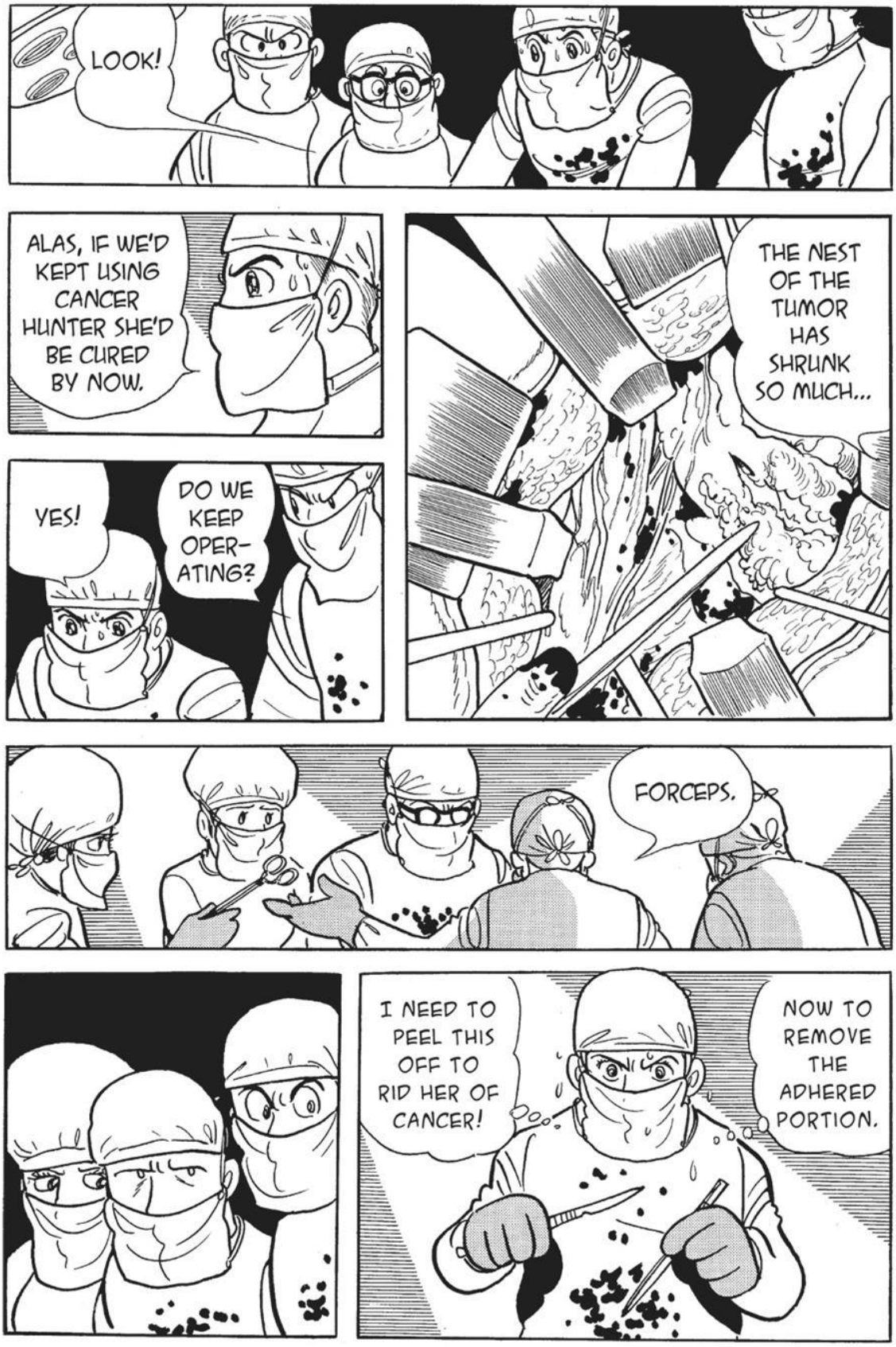
STOP THE CANCER HUNTER.
REMOVE THE PATIENT NOW.

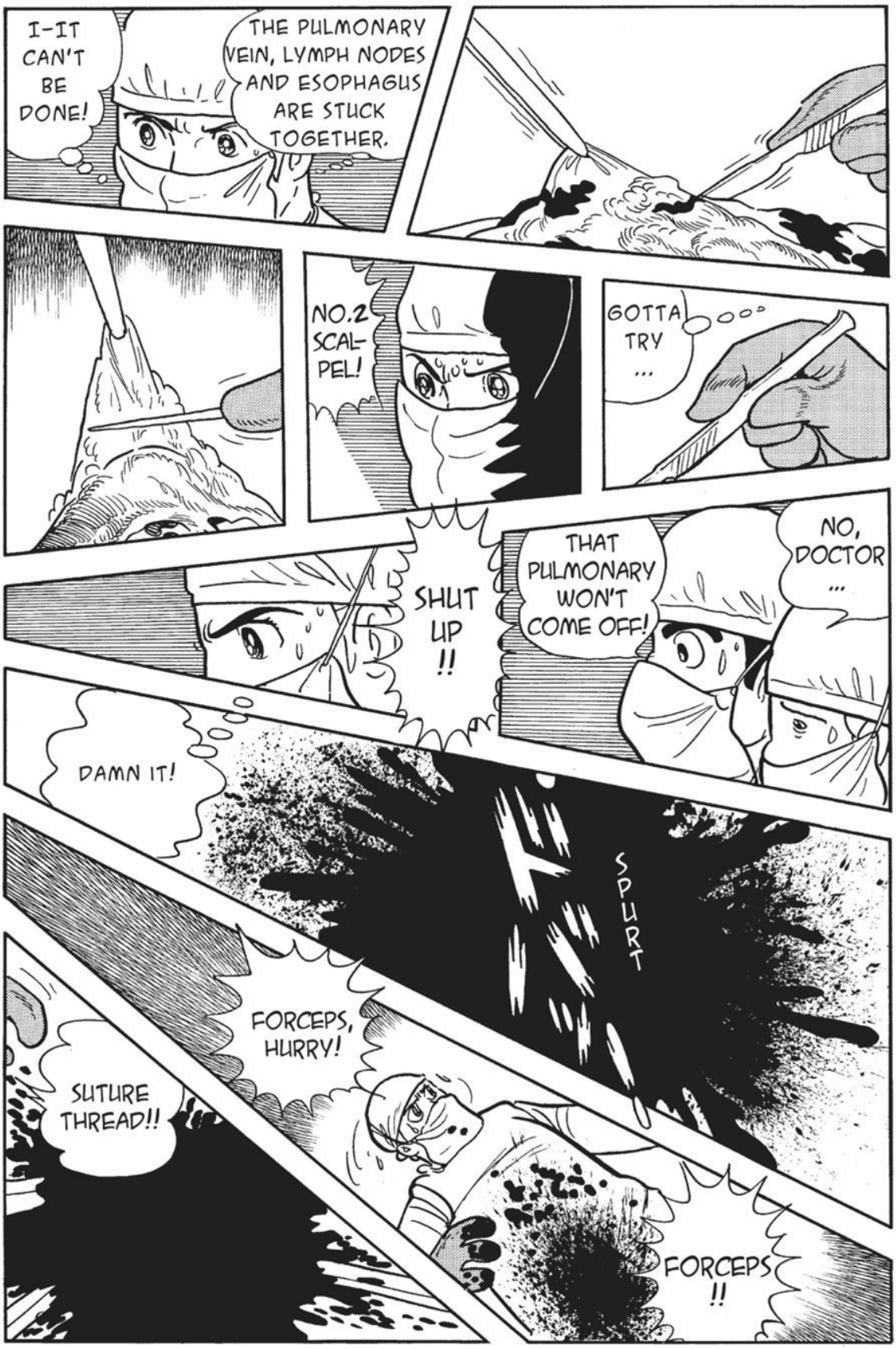
...

WHAT ON EARTH IS GOING ON?
DR. SHIRA-BYOSHI,
YOU SAID THE CANCER HUNTER CAN CURE CANCER,
DON'T TELL ME THE MACHINE MADE THE CANCER WORSE?!
NO, DON'T WORRY.
YET YOU CEASE THE PROCEDURE AND ORDER A FULL EXAM. WHY?
SHOULD WE OPERATE ?!
IF WE CONTINUE IT'LL RUIN THE A.N.S.
IT'S INOPERABLE, THOUGH.
WE PUT OUR FAITH IN THE CANCER HUNTER.
REALLY TRULY?
THE CANCER IS SLOWLY FADING. YOU JUST NEED TO BE PATIENT.
THEN WHY'D YOU ORDER TO HAVE EVEN HER EYES AND EARS CHECKED?
THAT'S WHAT A FULL EXAM IS!

RIGHT. WE USED IT BECAUSE YOU VOUCHED FOR IT.
YOU SHOULD NEVER HAVE BROUGHT THAT MACHINE OVER FROM AMERICA IN THE FIRST PLACE.
HOW DARE YOU SAY THAT!
BUT IT WAS A JOKE OF AN APPARATUS.
I DID! IT HAD THE SOUTH PREMENS UNIVERSITY'S SEAL OF APPROVAL!
THERE'S NO POINT. IT CAN'T BE DONE.
WE'LL OPERATE INSTEAD.
IT'S NO USE. FOR NOW ...
...
DON'T TELL THE MEDIA THAT THE CANCER HUNTER IS FLAWED.
IF WE LET HER DIE, THIS UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL WILL BE A LAUGHINGSTOCK.
I ALREADY DECLARED TO THE MEDIA THAT I'D CURE HER.
PUT ALL STAFF UNDER A GAG ORDER.

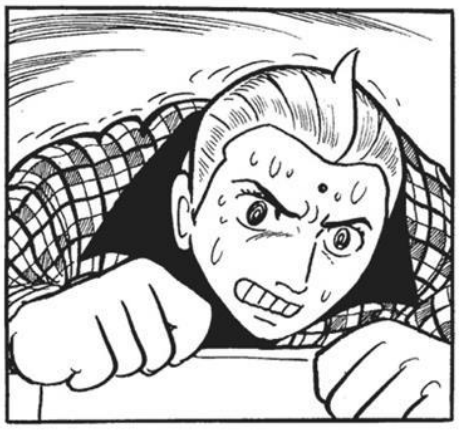

I'LL DO IT!!
YEAH, I BET HE COULD!
MAYBE BLACK JACK COULD PULL IT OFF...
BUT THIS IS QUITE A... PROBLEMATIC OPERATION.
BLACK JACK?! YOU MUST BE KIDDING! THAT QUACK CAN'T DO A DAMN THING!!
I'LL DESQUAMATE THE HILAR TUMOR THEN STITCH HER UP.
ANOTHER LUER FORCEPS.
CHEST OPENER!
WE'RE DOING EXPLORATORY SURGERY, JUST TO MAKE SURE.
ARE YOU TELLING ME THAT CANCER HUNTER DIDN'T WORK, DOCTOR?
IT DID WORK! PLEASE TRUST ME.


LOOK!
ALAS, IF WE'D KEPT USING CANCER HUNTER SHE'D BE CURED BY NOW.
THE NEST OF THE TUMOR HAS SHRUNK SO MUCH...
YES!
DO WE KEEP OPER-ATING?
FORCEPS.
I NEED TO PEEL THIS OFF TO RID HER OF CANCER!
NOW TO REMOVE THE ADHERED PORTION.

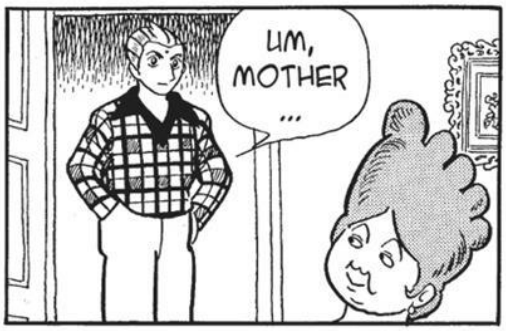

I-IT CAN'T BE DONE!
THE PULMONARY VEIN, LYMPH NODES AND ESOPHAGUS ARE STUCK TOGETHER.
NO.2 SCAL-PEL!
GOTTA TRY ...
SHUT UP !!
THAT PULMONARY WON'T COME OFF!
NO, DOCTOR ...
DAMN IT!
SPURT
FORCEPS, HURRY!
SUTURE THREAD!!
FORCEPS !!

STITCH HER UP FOR ME.
ABORT THE OPER-ATION.

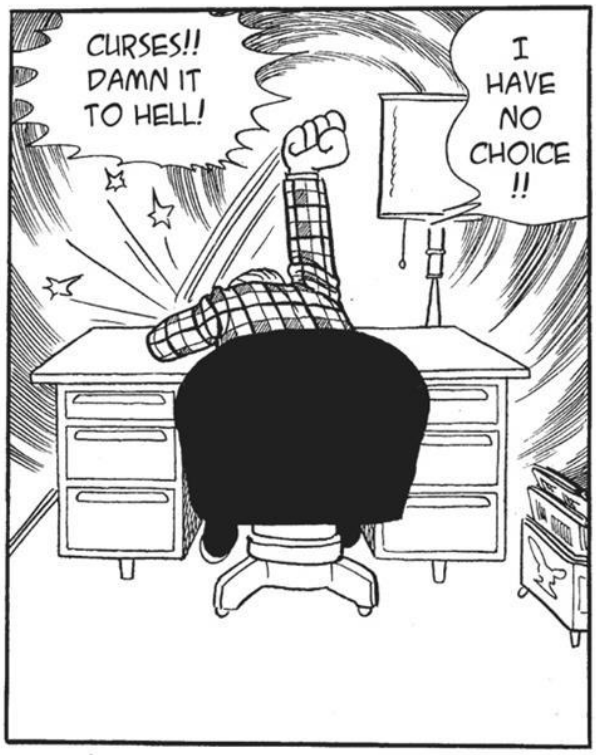
THE BLOOD WON'T STOP. WE MUST HALT.

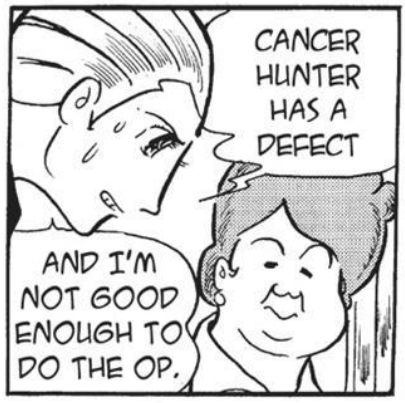


DAMN IT...!


UM, MOTHER ...

CAN YOU LEND ME SOME MONEY?
I ALWAYS SAY YES. WHAT DO YOU NEED IT FOR?


CURSES!! DAMN IT TO HELL!
I HAVE NO CHOICE !!


CANCER HUNTER HAS A DEFECT
AND I'M NOT GOOD ENOUGH TO DO THE OP.

OH MY.
SURE, BUT TELL ME WHAT IT'S FOR.

I NEED FIFTY MILLION YEN.

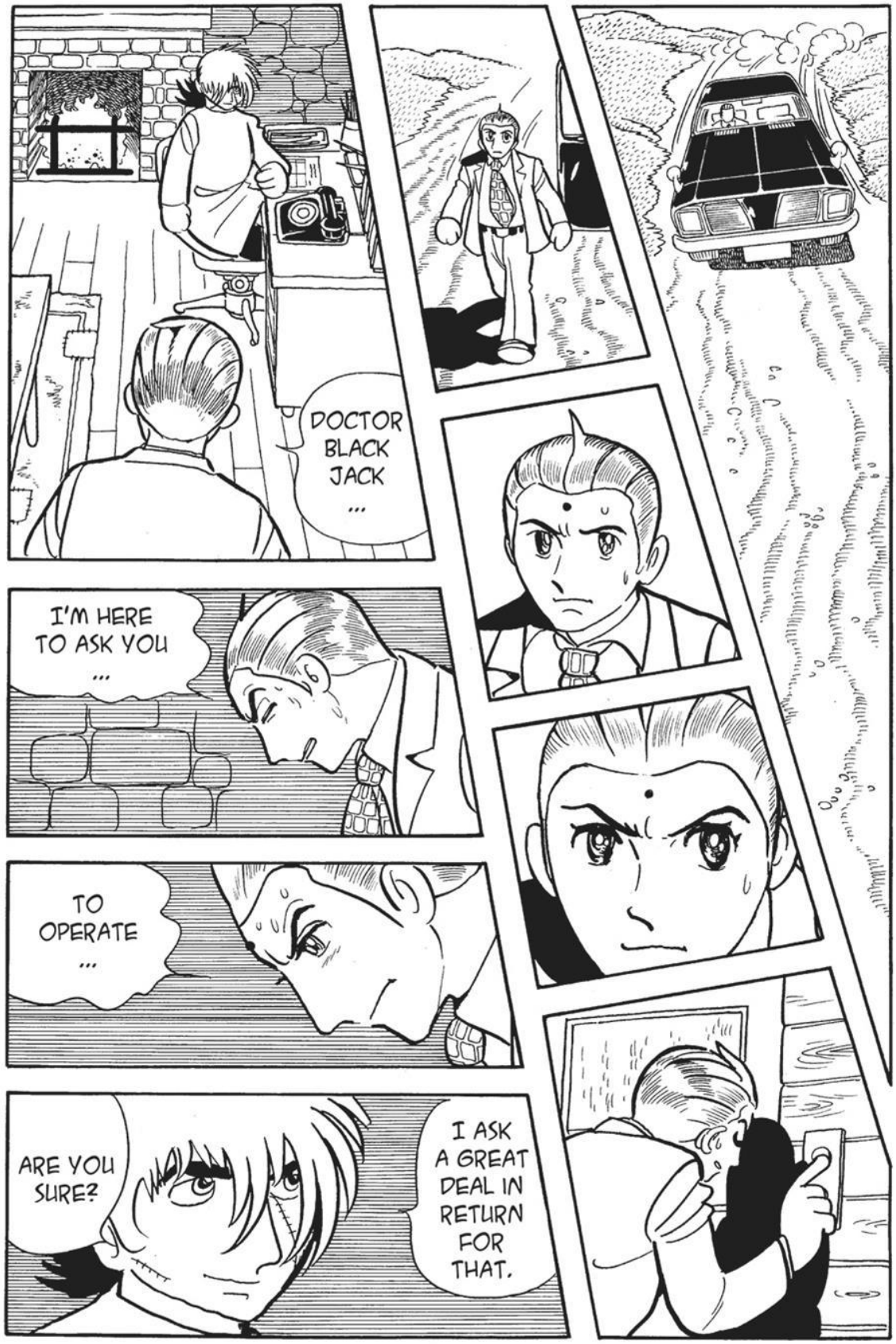
TO THINK THE DIRECTOR OF SURGERY AT TOZAI HAS TO RELY ON THAT QUACK!!
IT REALLY MAKES ME MAD.

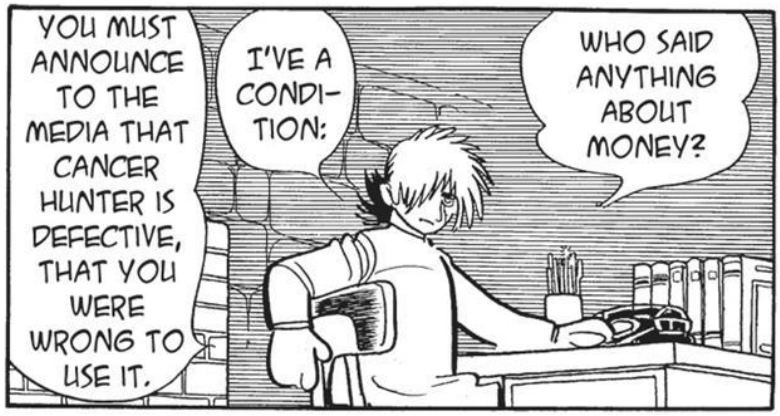
INDEED
BUT
YOU'RE ASKING DR. BLACK JACK TO HELP?
SO THEN ...

I THINK YOU'RE JUST
JEALOUS

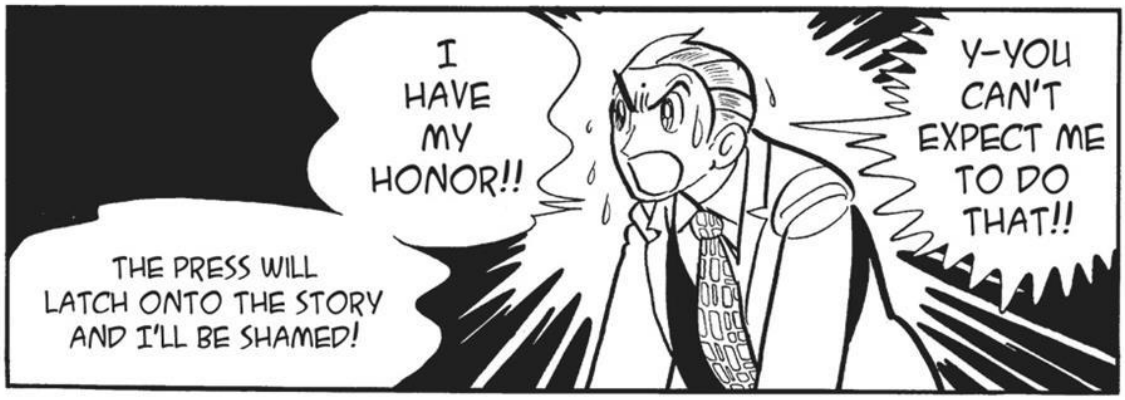
REALLY HATE DR. BLACK JACK SO MUCH?
DO YOU
I THINK IT'S SOME-THING ELSE.

AND YET I HAVE TO BOW DOWN TO HIM!!
JEALOUS?
YES, I AM JEALOUS!

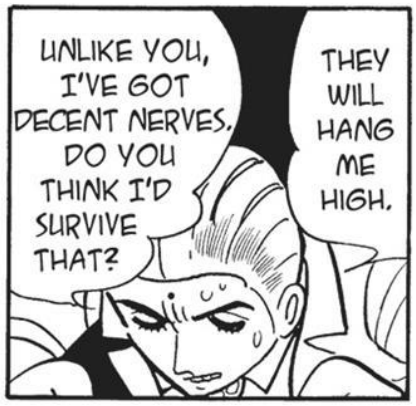

DOCTOR BLACK JACK ...
I'M HERE TO ASK YOU ...
TO OPERATE ...
ARE YOU SURE?
I ASK A GREAT DEAL IN RETURN FOR THAT.

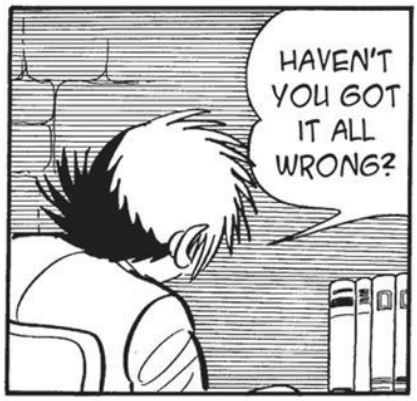

YOU MUST ANNOUNCE TO THE MEDIA THAT CANCER HUNTER IS DEFECTIVE, THAT YOU WERE WRONG TO USE IT.
I'VE A CONDI-TION:
WHO SAID ANYTHING ABOUT MONEY?

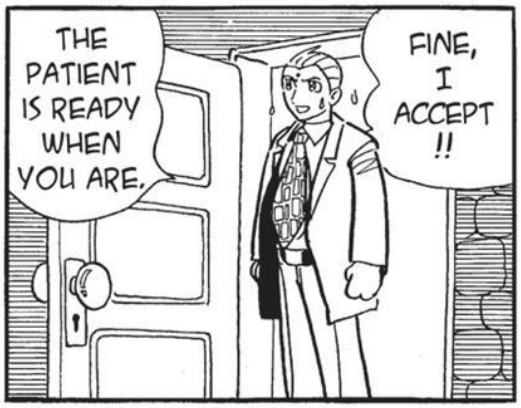
I'VE GOT 50 MIL HERE. THAT SHOULD SATE EVEN YOUR GREED!

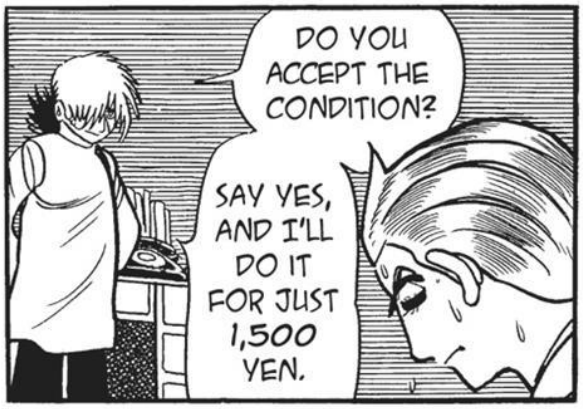

I HAVE MY HONOR!!
THE PRESS WILL LATCH ONTO THE STORY AND I'LL BE SHAMED!
Y-YOU CAN'T EXPECT ME TO DO THAT!!

WHY WON'T A DECENT DOCTOR DO WHAT NEEDS TO BE DONE?!


UNLIKE YOU, I'VE GOT DECENT NERVES. DO YOU THINK I'D SURVIVE THAT?
THEY WILL HANG ME HIGH.


HAVEN'T YOU GOT IT ALL WRONG?


THE PATIENT IS READY WHEN YOU ARE.
FINE, I ACCEPT !!


DO YOU ACCEPT THE CONDITION?
SAY YES, AND I'LL DO IT FOR JUST 1,500 YEN.

I HAVE AN URGENT ANNOUNCEMENT. CANCER HUNTER, WHICH I BROUGHT BACK FROM AMERICA, HAS BEEN FOUND TO HAVE...

I SAW HIM, MA'AM.

PLEASE THINK WELL OF HIM.
IT MUST BE VERY HARD FOR HIM. SO BE IT...
THANK YOU VERY MUCH.
SO LONG.

SCALPEL

BAD STUNT

HOLLYWOOD... A CITY WHERE FILMS ARE OFTEN BORN FROM A WHIRLPOOL OF TRAPS, SCHEMES, AND LIES.

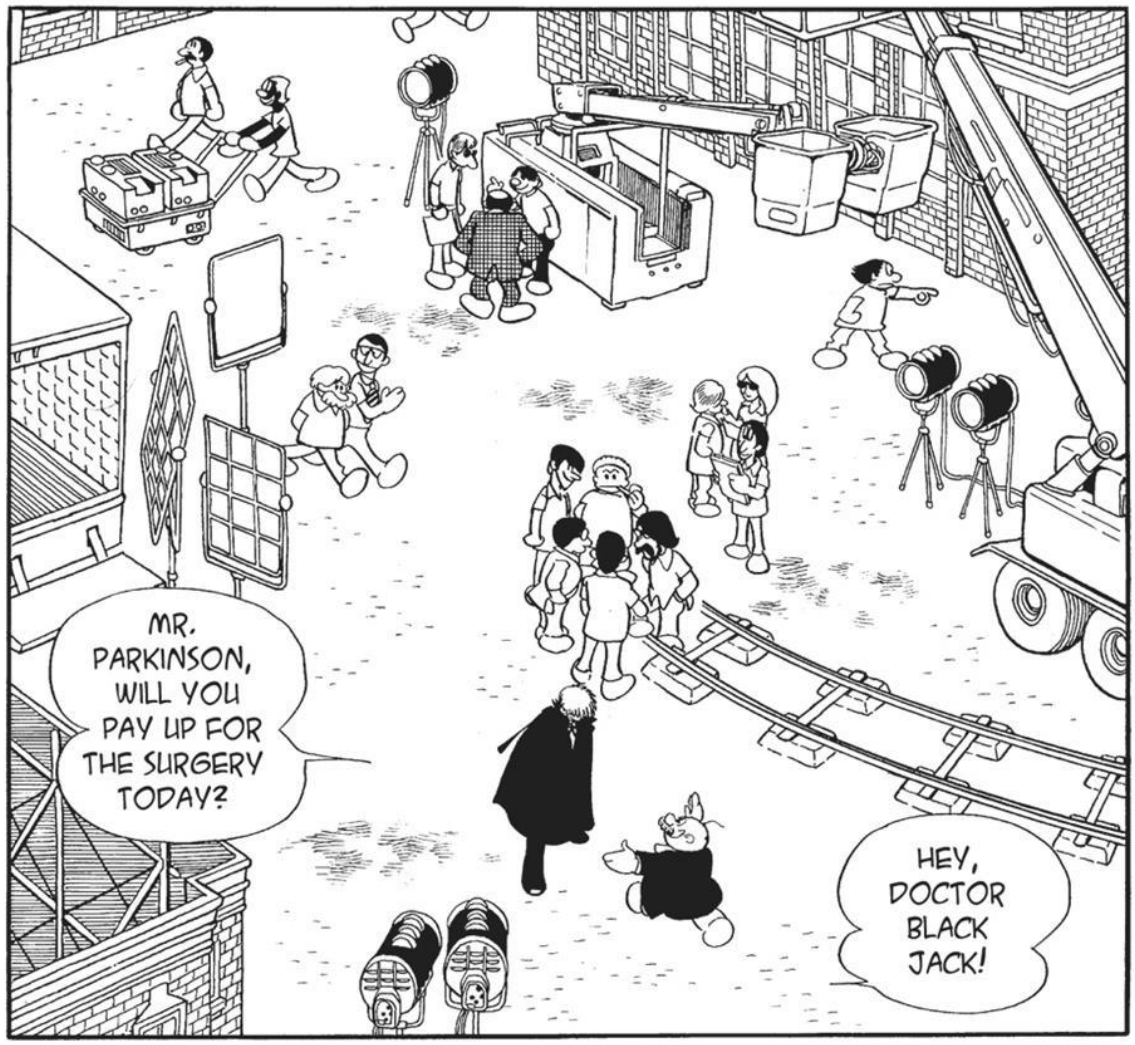
SCREECH

I'M HERE TO SEE PRODUCER PARKINSON.

JUST ONE MOMENT, I'LL TAKE YOU TO HIM.

WOW, LOOK AT THAT FACE! SPECIAL EFFECT MAKEUP?

MUST BE AN ACTOR MAKING HIS HORROR FLICK DEBUT.


MR. PARKINSON, WILL YOU PAY UP FOR THE SURGERY TODAY?
HEY, DOCTOR BLACK JACK!

COME TO MY OFFICE.
NOW, NOW.
WE'VE GOT SOMETHING WE NEED TO DISCUSS!

PAY THE $100,000 FEE, STAT.

THANKS TO YOU, EVEN THE SWELLING'S TOTALLY GONE!

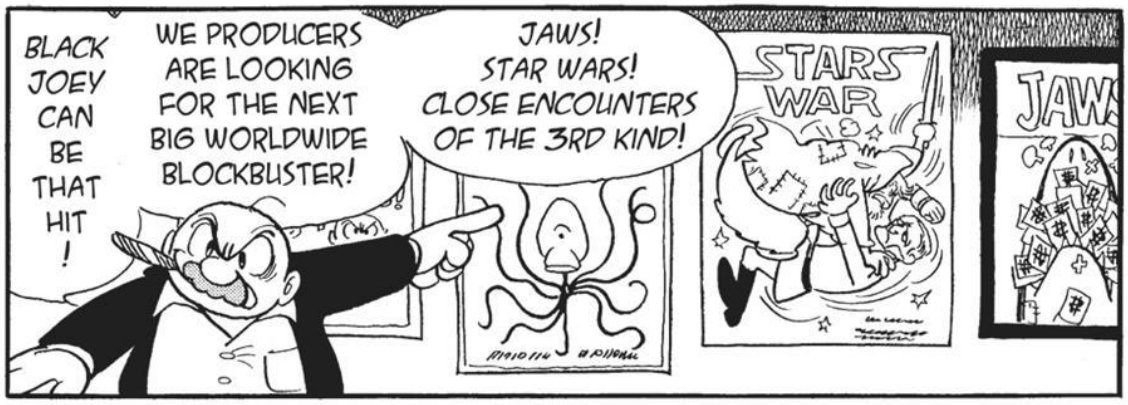
IT TAUGHT ME HOW PRECIOUS LIFE IS AND HOW VALUABLE MEDICINE IS.
YOUR MIRACULOUS SURGERY DIDN'T JUST HEAL MY BODY.
YET NOT ONLY DID YOU MAKE ME WHOLE AGAIN
MY LEFT ARM WAS SEVERED, MY GUTS TORN UP,
I CAN'T EVEN SEE WHERE MY ARM WAS PUT BACK ON! A MIRACLE OF MIRACLES!
WILL YOU PAY ME
OR NOT ?!
AS A MOVIE PRODUCER, I CAME UP WITH A NEW IDEA FOR A FILM.
GOOD TO HEAR. NOW PAY ME THE $100,000.

BLACK JOEY

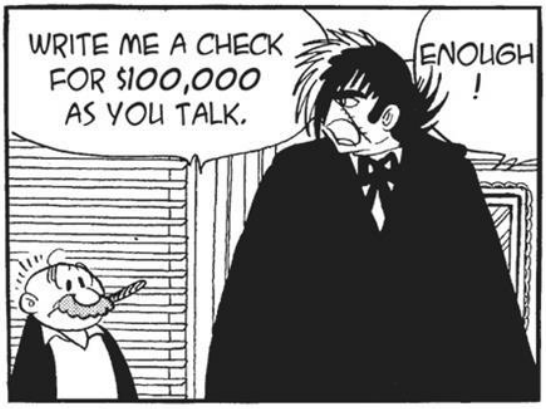
THIS SCREEN-PLAY IS BASED ON YOU.

I WANT TO TAKE MY MONEY AND GO HOME!
I DON'T WANT TO HEAR IT!

HE'S PRICEY, WORKS OUTSIDE THE LAW, YET HAS A SENSE OF JUSTICE AND WORKS MIRACLES IN THE O.R.
A TALE OF A DOCTOR WITH A SCARRED FACE AND A DARK PAST.
BLACK JOEY.


BLACK JOEY CAN BE THAT HIT!
WE PRODUCERS ARE LOOKING FOR THE NEXT BIG WORLDWIDE BLOCKBUSTER!
JAWS! STAR WARS! CLOSE ENCOUNTERS OF THE 3RD KIND!
STARS WAR
JAWS

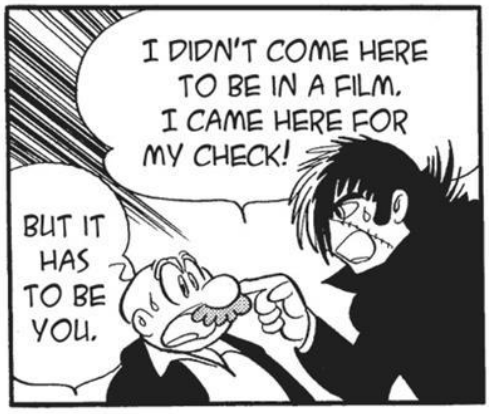
PERFECT. BRING THEM HERE.
THE AUDITIONS FOR THE LEAD ARE STARTING.
BOSS.


WRITE ME A CHECK FOR $100,000 AS YOU TALK.
ENOUGH!

THE SURGERY SCENES, I WANT YOU TO DO.
NOW ...

NO SUB WOULD DO.
WE NEED TO FILM YOUR HANDS AT WORK!

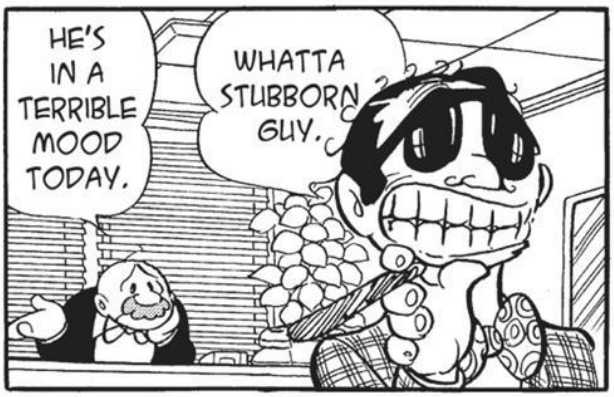
HERE ARE THE ACTORS WE CALLED FOR THE ROLE OF BLACK JOEY. WHO DO YOU PREFER?


I DIDN'T COME HERE TO BE IN A FILM. I CAME HERE FOR MY CHECK!
BUT IT HAS TO BE YOU.

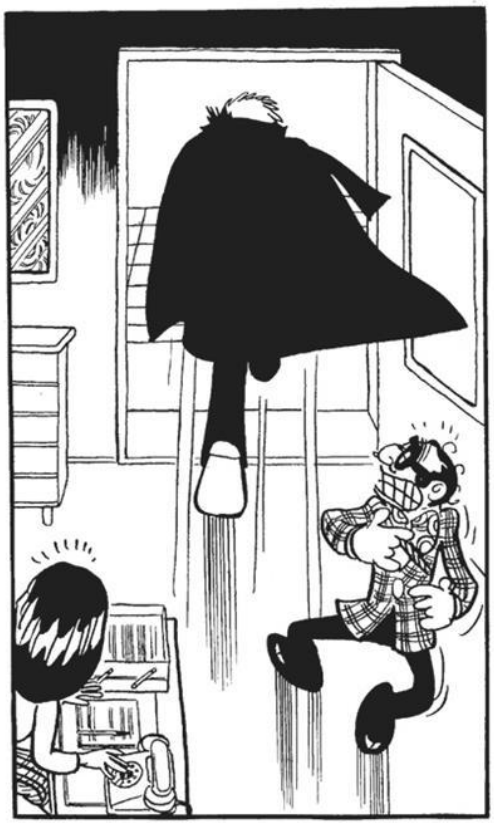
KNOCK IT OFF!!

I DON'T CARE WHAT FILM YOU MAKE.
LEAVE ME OUT OF IT. I'LL BE BACK TOMORROW.

THERE ARE PRECEDENTS. MUHAMMAD ALI WAS IN HIS OWN BIO-PIC.
IT WILL NOT LOOK RIGHT UNLESS YOU DO IT.


HE'S IN A TERRIBLE MOOD TODAY.
WHATTA STUBBORN GUY.

YOU'RE JUST NO GOOD AT TALKING PEOPLE INTO IT.
I BADLY WANTED HIM TO AGREE TO BE IN THE FILM...

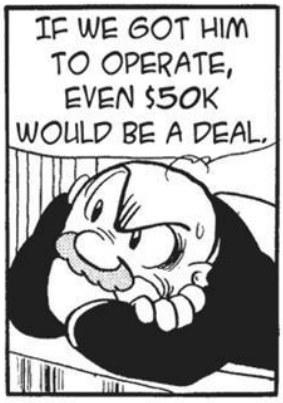


I'LL GET THAT ODDBALL DOCTOR TO OPERATE RIGHT IN THIS VERY LOT! I PROMISE! JUST PAY ME $10,000!
R... REALLY ?

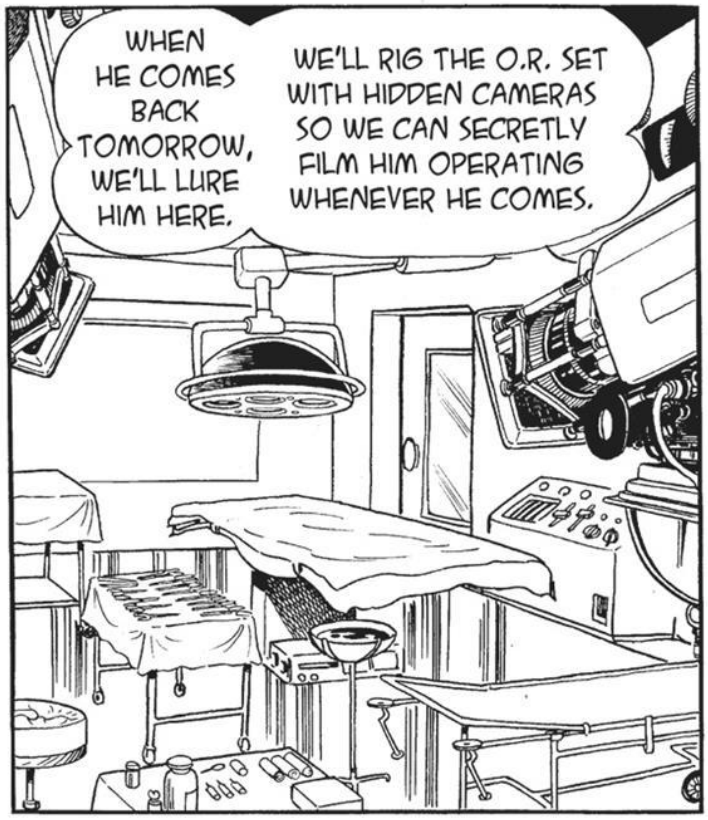
PAY THIS MANAGER $10,000 AND HE'LL BE IN THE FILM.
BOSH, YOU CAN'T DO IT!

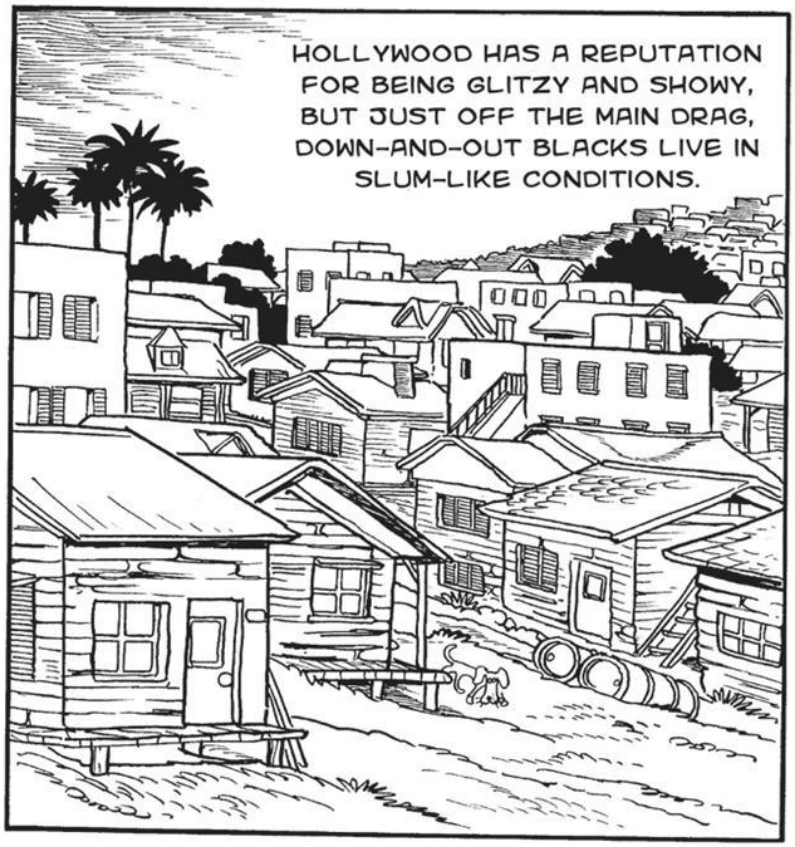
A DEAL! $50,000 !
UH ...

BUT IF YOU FAIL, I'LL RIP OUT YOUR TONGUE, SALT IT, MAKE IT INTO A SANDWICH AND FEED IT TO YOU.


IF WE GOT HIM TO OPERATE, EVEN $50K WOULD BE A DEAL.

AND FOR THAT, WE NEED A PATIENT WITH AN INJURY ONLY HE CAN CURE.
I-INJURY? HOW?


WHEN HE COMES BACK TOMORROW, WE'LL LURE HIM HERE.
WE'LL RIG THE O.R. SET WITH HIDDEN CAMERAS SO WE CAN SECRETLY FILM HIM OPERATING WHENEVER HE COMES.


HOLLYWOOD HAS A REPUTATION FOR BEING GLITZY AND SHOWY, BUT JUST OFF THE MAIN DRAG, DOWN-AND-OUT BLACKS LIVE IN SLUM-LIKE CONDITIONS.

HEH HEH. THAT'S THE EASY PART. I'VE GOT A LOT OF LITTLE TRICKS TO USE BEFORE TOMORROW.

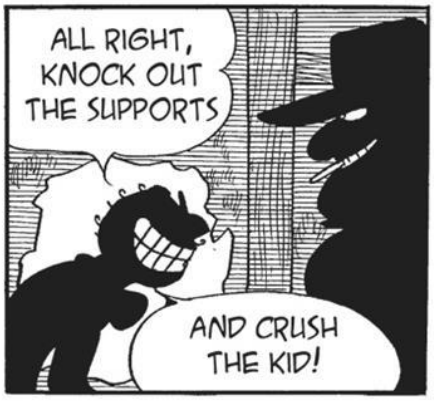
BLACK PEOPLE HAVE MOVED INTO THE FAMOUS CELEBRITY ENCLAVES OF BEVERLY HILLS, AS THE WHITES MOVE ELSEWHERE.
HEY SAMMY, GOT A MINUTE?
SAY, WANNA GO TO THE FILMING LOT TOMORROW?
WHAT'S UP, BRO?
WHEN SIDNEY POITIER WON AN OSCAR, IT CAUSED QUITE A RUCKUS, EXPOSING THE DEEP-SEATED RACISM STILL LURKING IN HOLLYWOOD.

HERE'S YOUR PASS.
MAYBE I'LL BE AN ACTOR!
I'VE ALWAYS WANTED TO VISIT THE LOTS. OKAY, I'M ON.
DUNNO, I HEARD THERE'S WORK.
WHY? IS THERE SOMETHING IN IT FOR ME?
YOU GOTTA STAY AWAY FROM HIM.
DON'T. IT SOUNDS SUSPICIOUS ...
I'M GOING TO A SET TOMORROW.
YOU DON'T JUST LAND JOBS LIKE THAT.
WHY?
HEY, SIS, LOOK! A PASS TO GET ONTO THE LOTS!
WERE YOU HANGING OUT WITH THAT HOODLUM AGAIN?
THROW OUT THAT PASS.
NO WAY!
NOTHING GOOD WILL COME OF IT. I GOT A FEELING, SAMMY.
BUT THAT'S WHY IT'S A CHANCE TO PROVE MYSELF!

HEY, SOME STRANGE KID'S HERE, WITH A PASS. WHO THE HELL GAVE IT TO HIM?

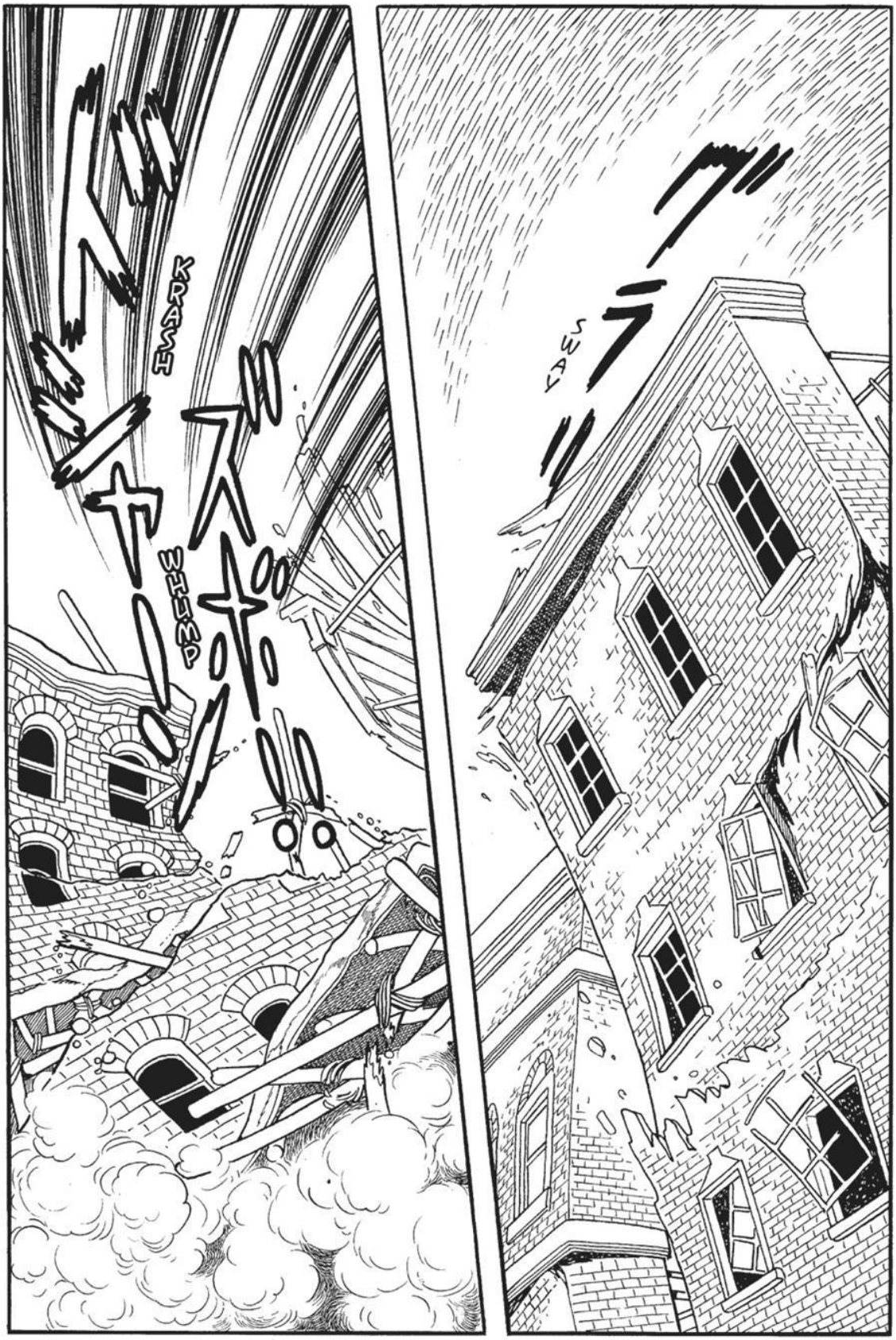
HALT! WHERE YOU GOIN'?!
HEH HEH. I'VE GOT A PASS.

YOU'RE GOING TO THAT OPEN-AIR SET ON THE CORNER.
THANK YOU!


ALL RIGHT, KNOCK OUT THE SUPPORTS
AND CRUSH THE KID!

I THOUGHT IT WAS STONE, BUT IT'S PAINTED WOOD.

WOW, SO THIS IS JUST A SET, HUH? IT LOOKS LIKE THE REAL THING.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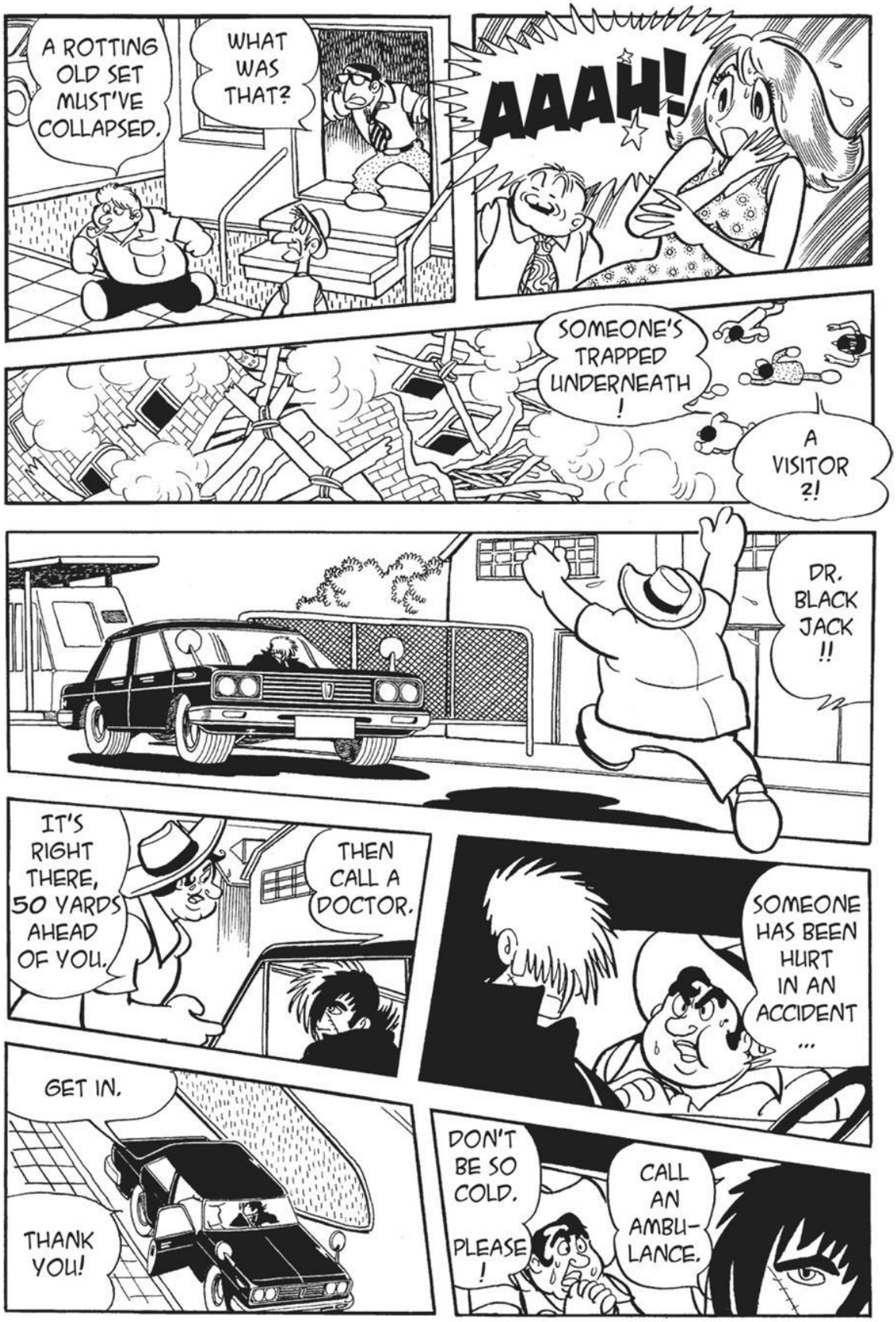
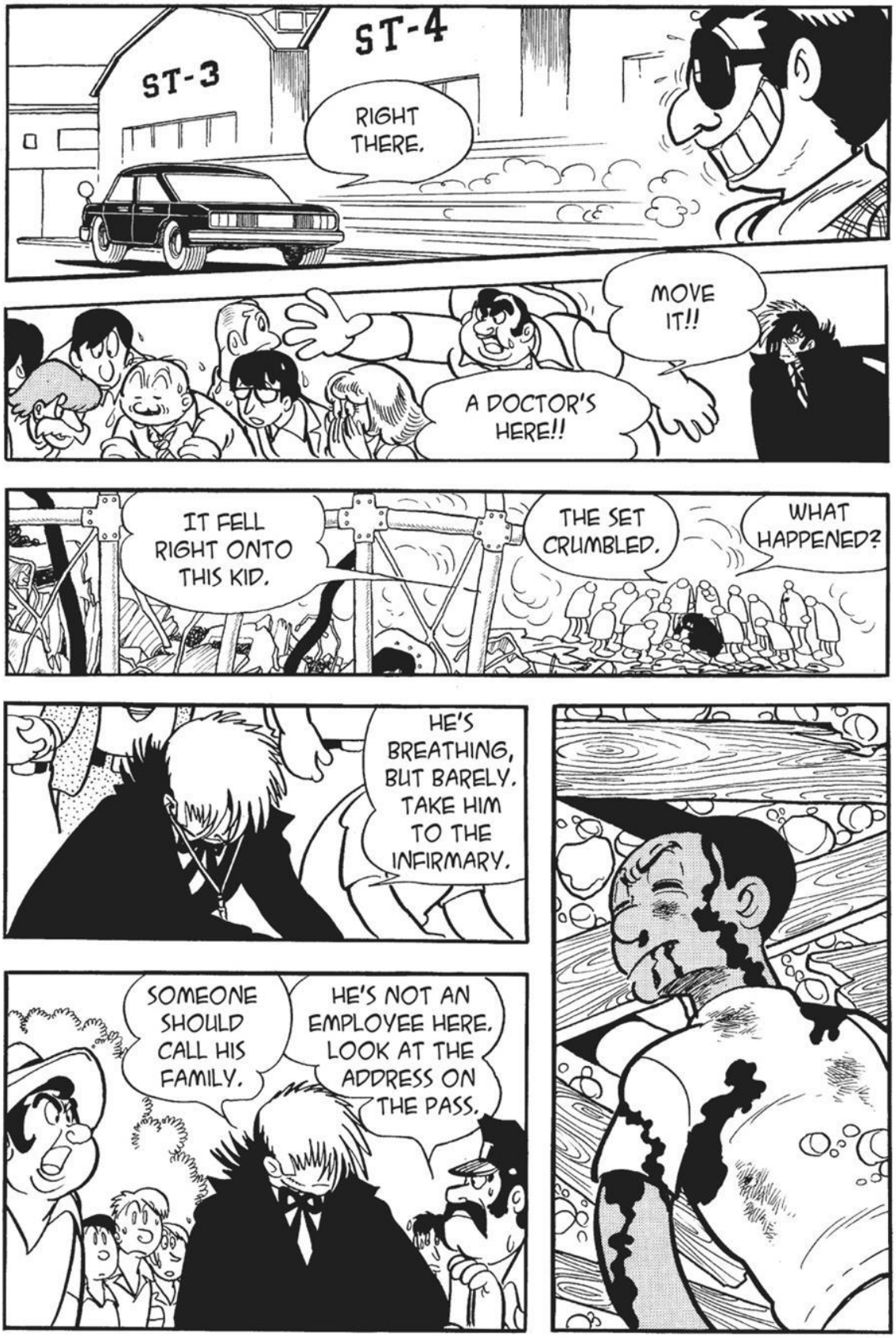
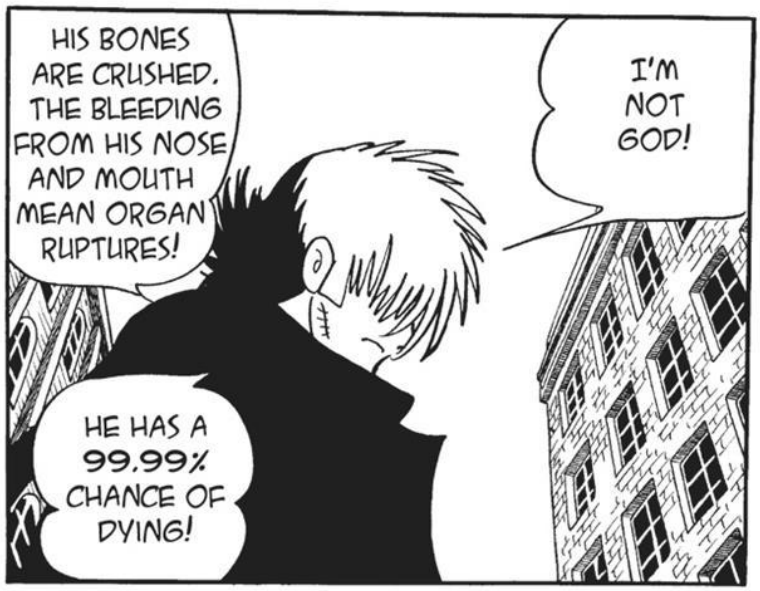

A ROTTING OLD SET MUST'VE COLLAPSED.
WHAT WAS THAT?
AAAH!
SOMEONE'S TRAPPED UNDERNEATH !
A VISITOR ?!
DR. BLACK JACK !!
IT'S RIGHT THERE, 50 YARDS AHEAD OF YOU.
THEN CALL A DOCTOR.
SOMEONE HAS BEEN HURT IN AN ACCIDENT ...
GET IN.
THANK YOU!
DON'T BE SO COLD.
PLEASE !
CALL AN AMBU-LANCE.


ST-3
ST-4
RIGHT THERE.
MOVE IT!!
A DOCTOR'S HERE!!
IT FELL RIGHT ONTO THIS KID.
THE SET CRUMBLED.
WHAT HAPPENED?
HE'S BREATHING, BUT BARELY. TAKE HIM TO THE INFIRMARY.
SOMEONE SHOULD CALL HIS FAMILY.
HE'S NOT AN EMPLOYEE HERE. LOOK AT THE ADDRESS ON THE PASS.

CAN HE DO IT?
ALL YOURS, INFIRMARY DOCTOR.

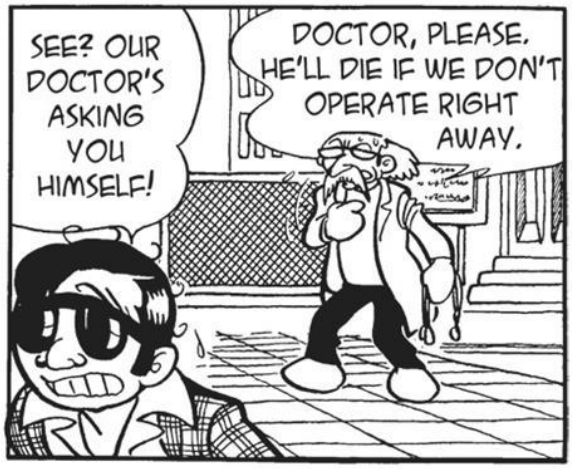
CAN'T BE DONE.

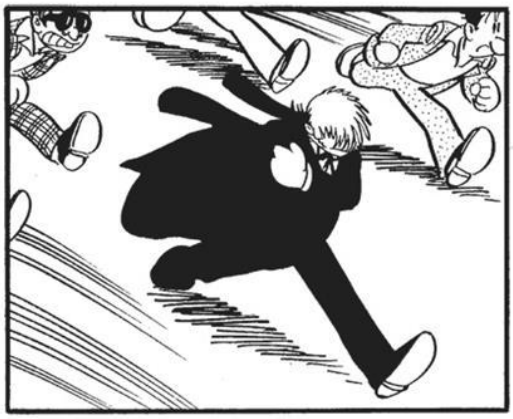
WE NEED YOUR HELP.
NO, THAT DOCTOR CAN'T SAVE HIM ...


HIS BONES ARE CRUSHED. THE BLEEDING FROM HIS NOSE AND MOUTH MEAN ORGAN RUPTURES!
I'M NOT GOD!
HE HAS A 99.99% CHANCE OF DYING!

DOCTOR, PLEASE LEND US A HAND AND SAVE HIM!
YOU CAN SAVE HIM, RIGHT?

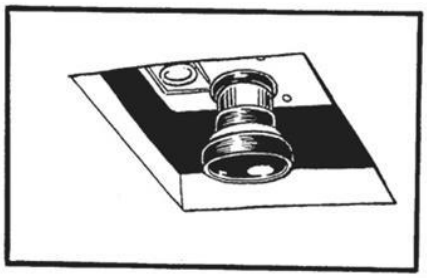
...

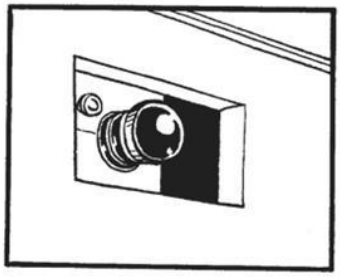

SEE? OUR DOCTOR'S ASKING YOU HIMSELF!
DOCTOR, PLEASE. HE'LL DIE IF WE DON'T OPERATE RIGHT AWAY.

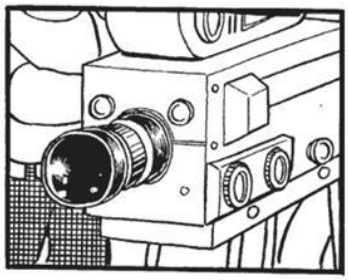


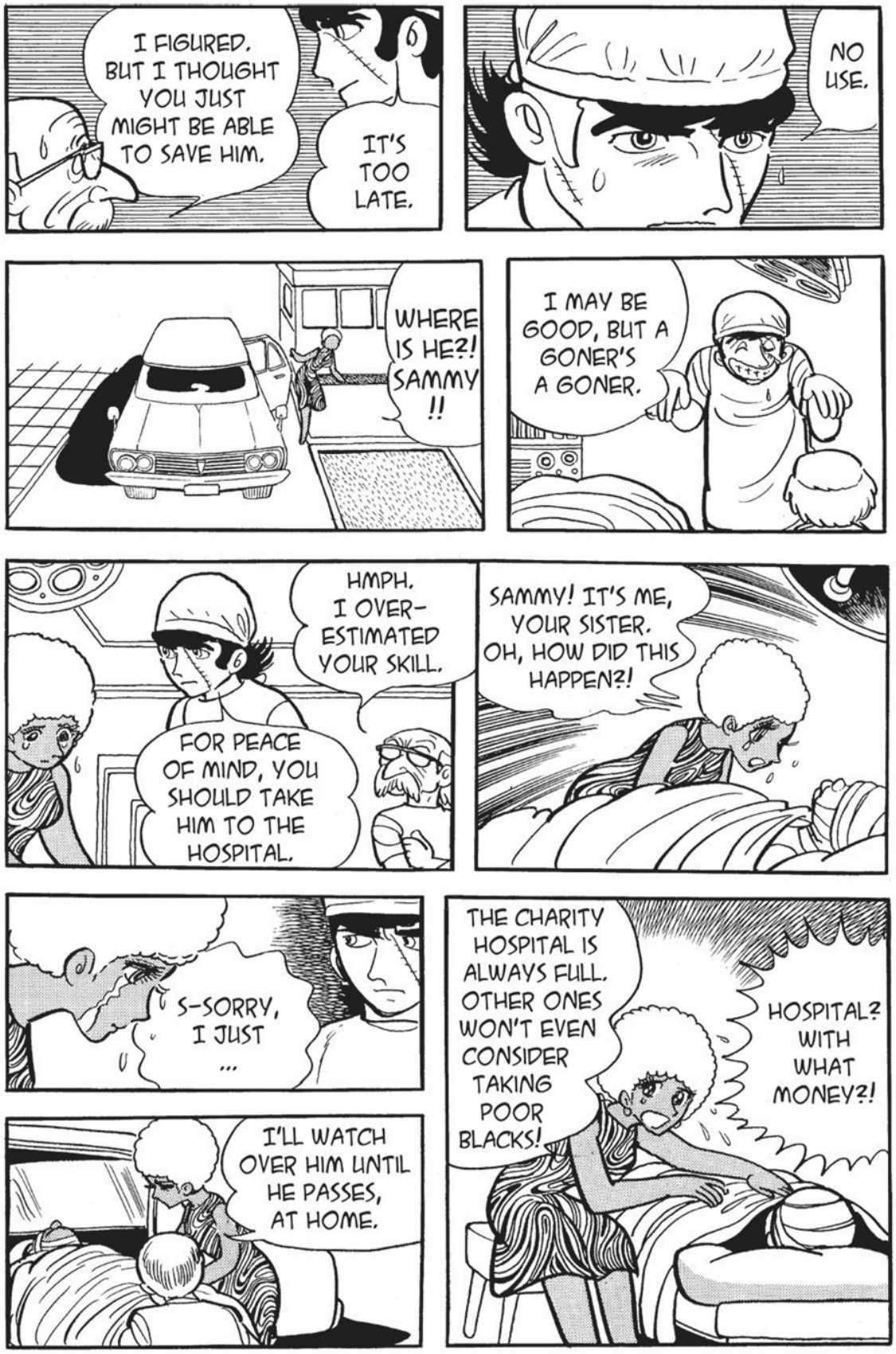
QUICK, TO THE O.R.!

ONCE HE CHANGES, ROLL TAPE. AND KEEP 'EM ROLLING.
READY THE CAMERAS!
IT'S GOING TO PLAN. HEY CREW, DR. BLACK JACK WILL OPERATE!

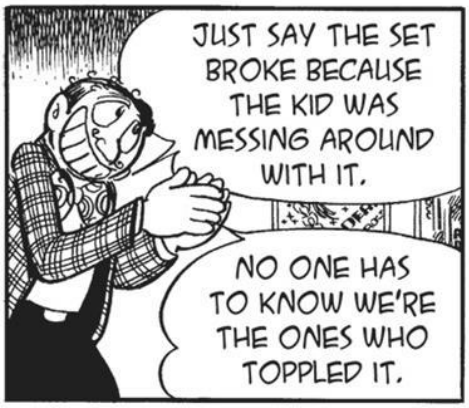




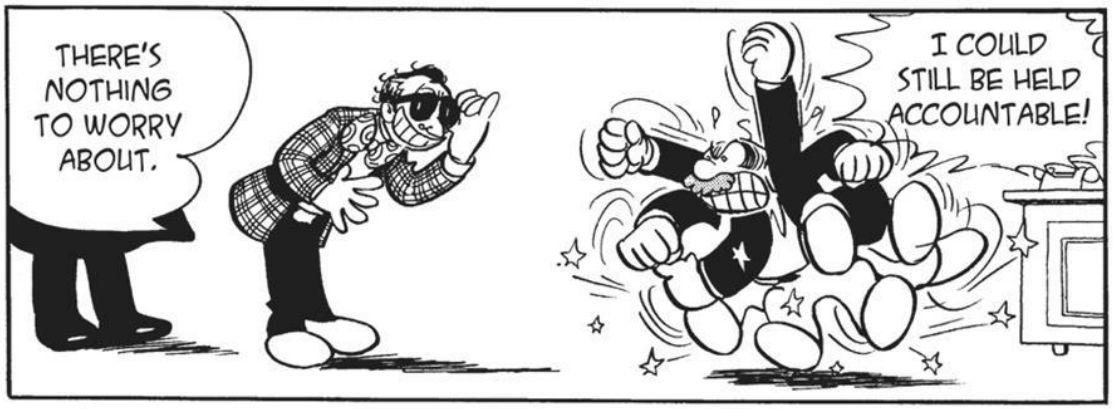



I FIGURED. BUT I THOUGHT YOU JUST MIGHT BE ABLE TO SAVE HIM.
IT'S TOO LATE.
NO USE.
WHERE IS HE?! SAMMY !!
I MAY BE GOOD, BUT A GONER'S A GONER.
HMPH. I OVER-ESTIMATED YOUR SKILL.
FOR PEACE OF MIND, YOU SHOULD TAKE HIM TO THE HOSPITAL.
SAMMY! IT'S ME, YOUR SISTER. OH, HOW DID THIS HAPPEN?!
S-SORRY, I JUST ...
I'LL WATCH OVER HIM UNTIL HE PASSES, AT HOME.
THE CHARITY HOSPITAL IS ALWAYS FULL. OTHER ONES WON'T EVEN CONSIDER TAKING POOR BLACKS!
HOSPITAL? WITH WHAT MONEY?!

WE MIGHT HAVE TO PAY OUT A HEFTY SUM!


JUST SAY THE SET BROKE BECAUSE THE KID WAS MESSING AROUND WITH IT.
NO ONE HAS TO KNOW WE'RE THE ONES WHO TOPPLED IT.

GUESS I MISJUDGED.
WHAT AN INCIDENT YOU'VE CAUSED! AND YOU NEVER EVEN GOT TO FILM BLACK JACK IN ACTION!!
MISJUDGED?! YOU'VE KILLED A HUMAN BEING!!


THERE'S NOTHING TO WORRY ABOUT.
I COULD STILL BE HELD ACCOUNTABLE!

YOU'VE PLAYED A VERY DIRTY TRICK, HAVEN'T YOU.
HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN HERE?

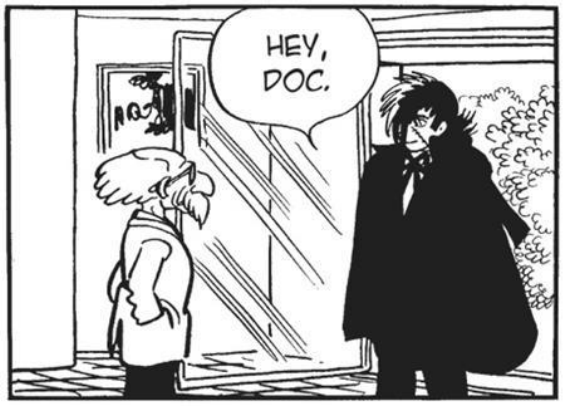
ACK

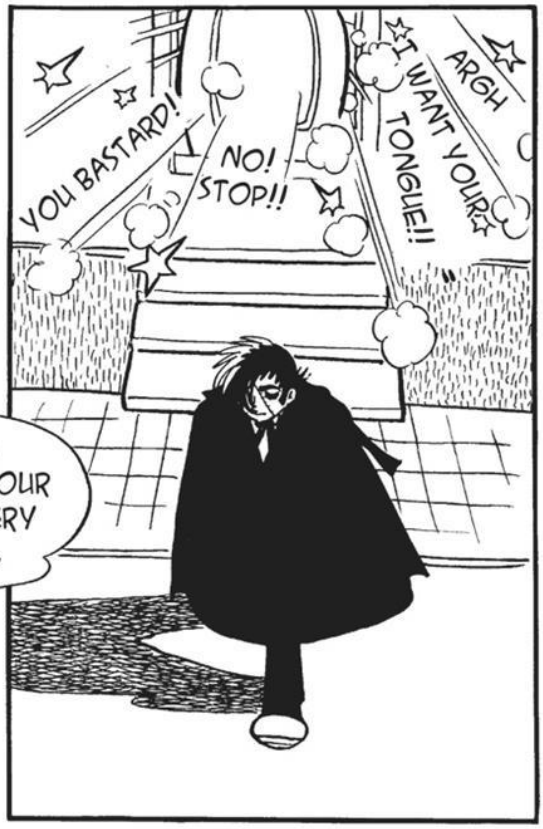
YOU WANTED TO INJURE SOMEONE JUST TO HAVE ME OPERATE? HARDLY A LAUDABLE CONTRAPTION.
"BODILY INJURY RESULTING IN DEATH."
YESTERDAY, WHEN I HEADED BACK HERE SHORTLY AFTER I'D LEFT IN A HUFF, I HEARD YOU FROM BEHIND THE DOOR. YES, EVERY DETAIL OF YOUR LITTLE PLOT!

ANOTHER $100,000 AND I'LL KEEP QUIET.

PAY ME MY $100,000.

...


HEY, DOC.

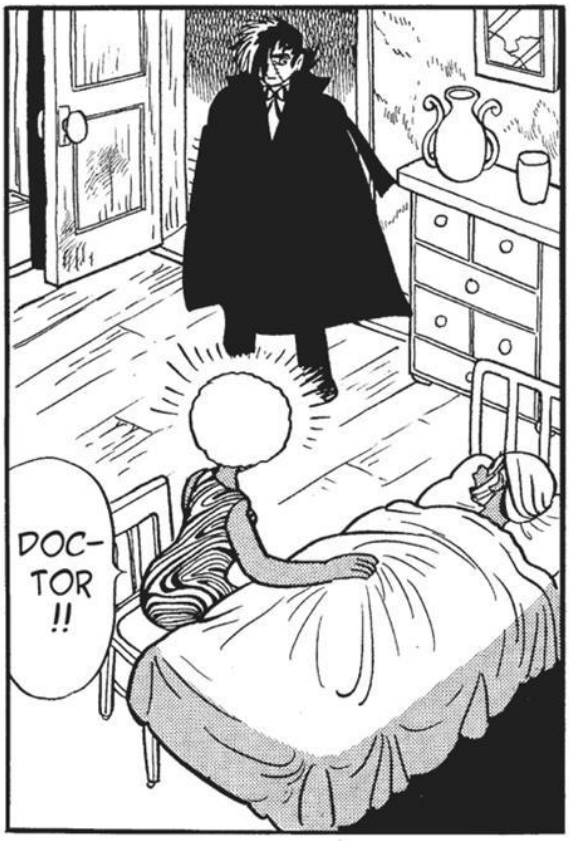

YOU BASTARD!
NO! STOP!!
I WANT YOUR TONGUE!!
ARGH

WAS I OF USE?
THIS IS FOR YOU.
YOU ACTED YOUR PART VERY WELL.

THEY LOOKED READY TO FAINT WHEN YOU SAID THERE WAS NO SAVING THE BOY. HA HA HA!

UNDER SO MANY HIDDEN CAMERAS?
WHO WOULD EVER WANT TO OPERATE

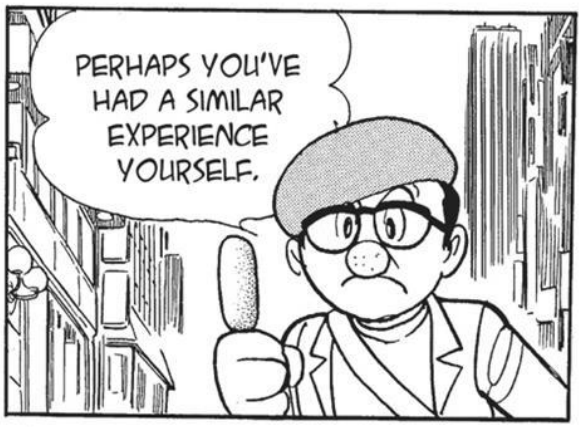
OF COURSE. HE ONLY CUT HIS MOUTH
SAMMY'S STILL ALIVE, DOCTOR!
AND SKINNED HIS FOREHEAD AND SHOULDER.

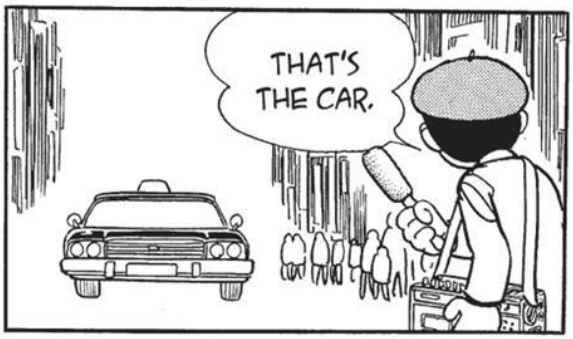

DOC-TOR !!

THE STUDIO PAID OUT $100,000 FOR THE ACCIDENT.

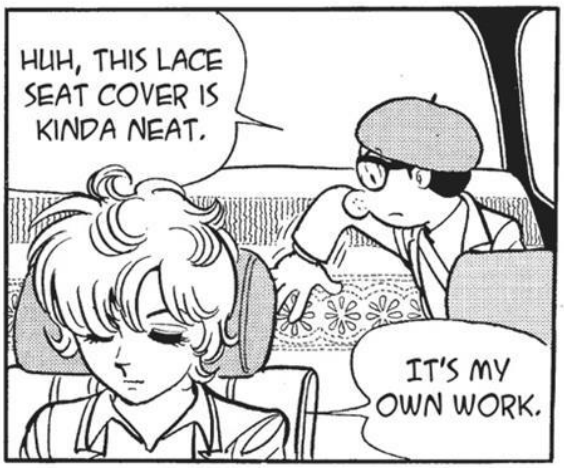
GET HIM THE BEST ROOM AT A HOSPITAL!

A PASSED MOMENT

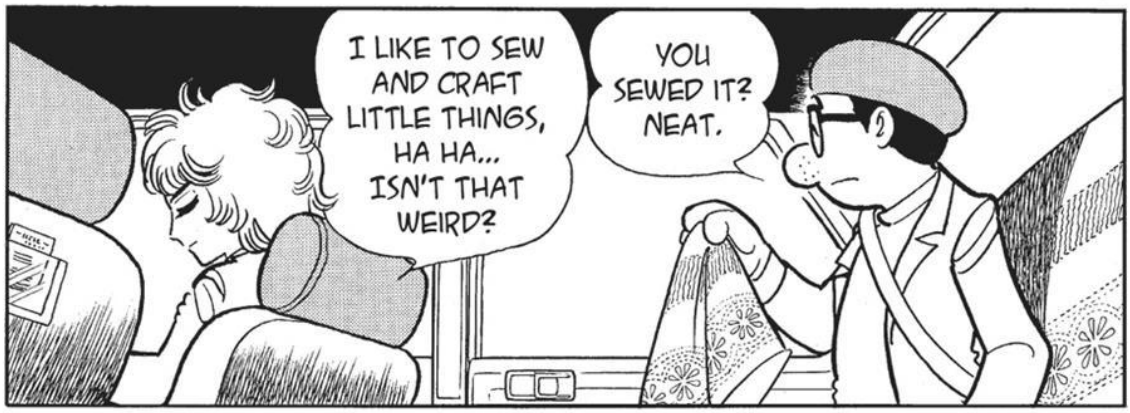

PERHAPS YOU'VE HAD A SIMILAR EXPERIENCE YOURSELF.


THAT'S THE CAR.

PARDON ME.


HUH, THIS LACE SEAT COVER IS KINDA NEAT.
IT'S MY OWN WORK.

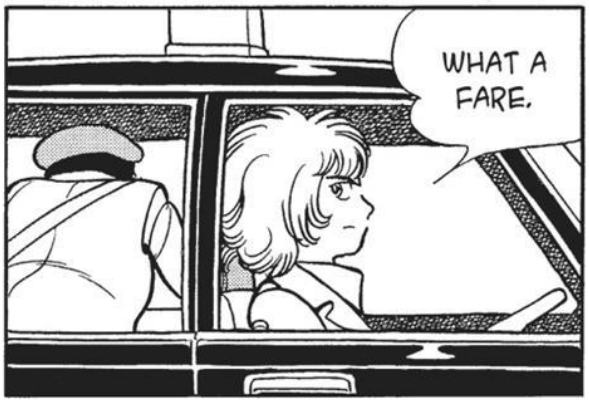
企画
清水商事
THE BIZARRE TALE I WANT TO SHARE WITH YOU HAS MANY INSTANCES AROUND THE WORLD.
PROFESSOR STEVENSON OF VIRGINIA UNIVERSITY HAS PROFILED TWO THOUSAND CASES.


I LIKE TO SEW AND CRAFT LITTLE THINGS, HA HA... ISN'T THAT WEIRD?
YOU SEWED IT? NEAT.

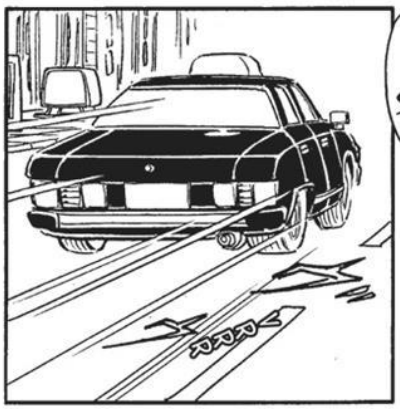
BY THE WAY, WHERE TO, SIR?

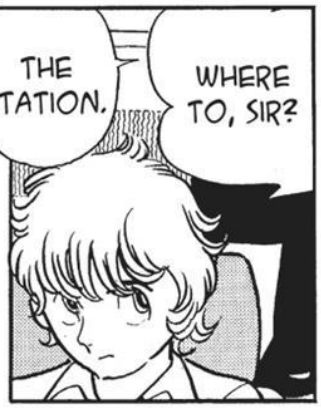
YES. I PLAYED SPORTS TOO, BUT I'VE HAD THESE GIRLISH INTERESTS.

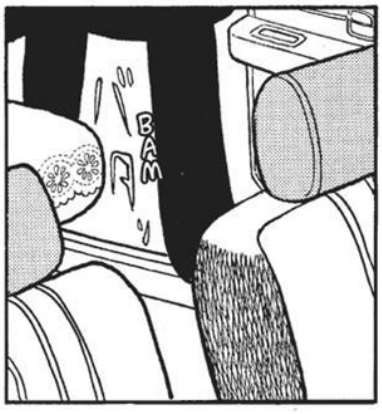
A CHILD-HOOD HOBBY ?


WHAT A FARE.

GIVE ME A BREAK, I'M BUSY! GET OFF.
I HAVE MORE QUES-TIONS.




THE STATION.
WHERE TO, SIR?


BAM

AH!
AHHH!

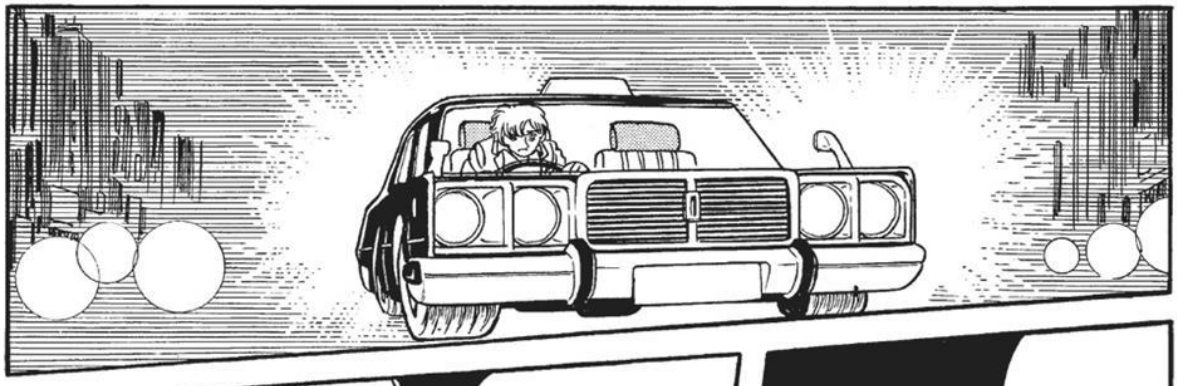
SKREE
WATCH OUT, YOU IDIOT!
I'M SORRY ...
WAIT, WHAT'S UP WITH THAT SCAR?
I-IT'S NOTHING ...
IT'S JUST MY ALLERGIES. IT'S NOT A SCAR.
SCAR?
SKREEECH

YES. I'LL BE BACK BY 8.
OFF TO NIGHT SCHOOL?
YOU SAID IT.
WELL, SCHOOL'S SCHOOL, BUT 5 TO 8 IS WHEN WE RAKE IT IN. IT'S GOTTA HURT.
I'M GRATEFUL TO HIM.
GOOD THING OUR BOSS UNDERSTANDS YOUR SITUATION.
HEY, IMAMURA. ALREADY CALLING IT IN?
WHERE DO YOU HAVE IN MIND?
HAH, HOW POSH.
NO... I WANT TO TRAVEL ABROAD.
I HEARD YOU'RE SAVING. GETTING MARRIED? BUYING A HOUSE?
IT'S GREAT TO BE SINGLE, EH? YOU GUYS ALWAYS SPLURGE YOUR SAVINGS ON OVERSEAS TRIPS.
I'VE YET TO DECIDE.
AT ANY RATE, STUDY WELL AND WORK HARD.

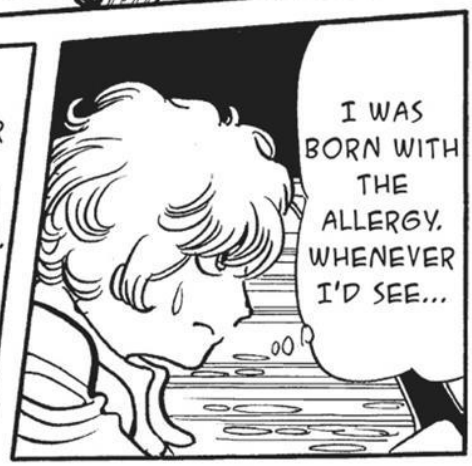
2-3
HERE, THE BAG YOU ASKED ME TO MAKE.
WOW!! SO CUTE!
AWW, MAKE ME ONE, TOO!
I GUESS.
YOU REALLY MADE THIS YOURSELF?
WHAT A WAY TO LURE CHICKS!
THAT'S A CUTE HOBBY YOU'VE GOT.
I WAS BORN THIS WAY.
HIS NAME IS KENPEI IMAMURA. HE WORKS AS A CAB DRIVER TO PUT HIMSELF THROUGH NIGHT SCHOOL.
BUT ONE DAY, AS YOU SAW, HE HAS A SUDDEN FIT. IT'S THE FIRST TIME HE'S EVER SUFFERED SUCH A THING.

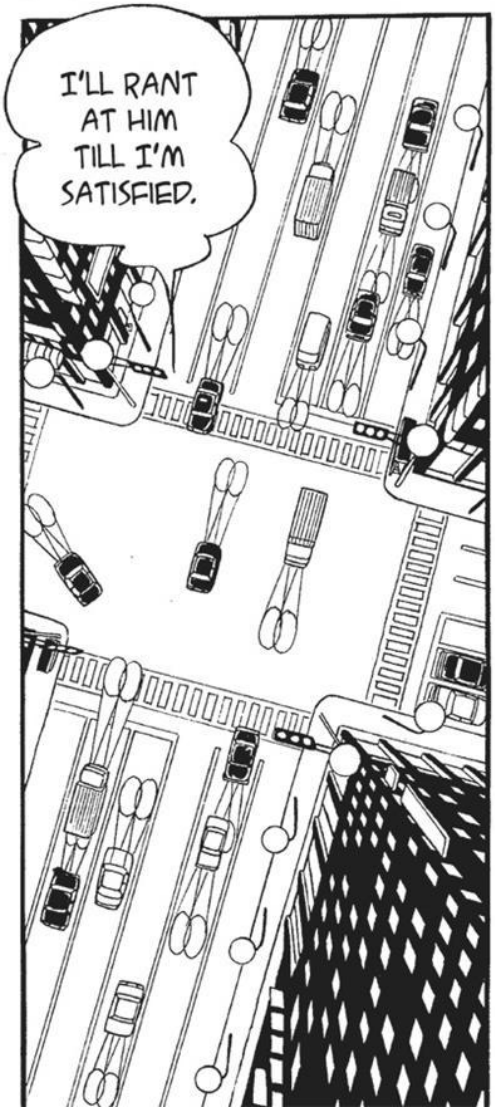
SO THE CAUSE BEHIND OP-POSITION TO IMPORTING CROPS...
ERR...
YOU MEAN YOUR WIFE, AGAIN?
SHUSH, YOU FOOL. DON'T FORGET WE'RE IN CLASS!
OH, THIS?
I WAS CLAWED BY A STRAY CAT.
TEACHER, THAT MUST HURT. HOW'D YOU GET IT?
ODD...
OH!
HEY, IMAMURA HAS THEM TOO.
IT'S... NOTHING.
IT'S REALLY NOTHING.
LEAVE ME ALONE!
IN THE EXACT SAME SPOTS!

H-HOW DID YOU GET THOSE?
...
BLANK
JUST MY CONSTI-TUTION...
WHAT IS THIS ?
PLEASE DON'T BOTHER. THEY'LL GO AWAY SOON.
HUH, THEY AREN'T SCARS. THEY'RE MORE LIKE WELTS.
SHUT UP!
I SEE... YOUR CONSTITUTION. DO YOU MEAN TO SAY YOU'RE ALLERGIC? HOW SENSITIVE OF YOU, TO GROW WELTS UPON SEEING MY SCARS.
KLANK
PLEASE STOP THIS!

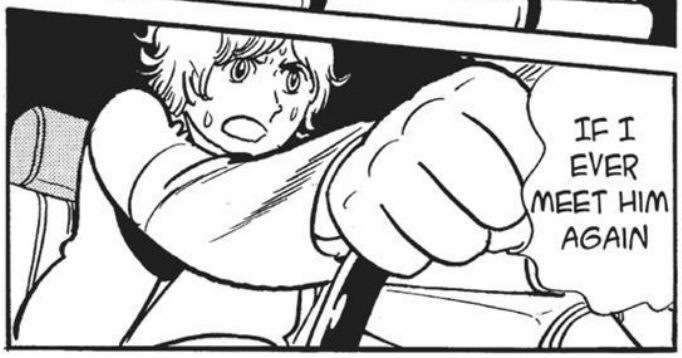


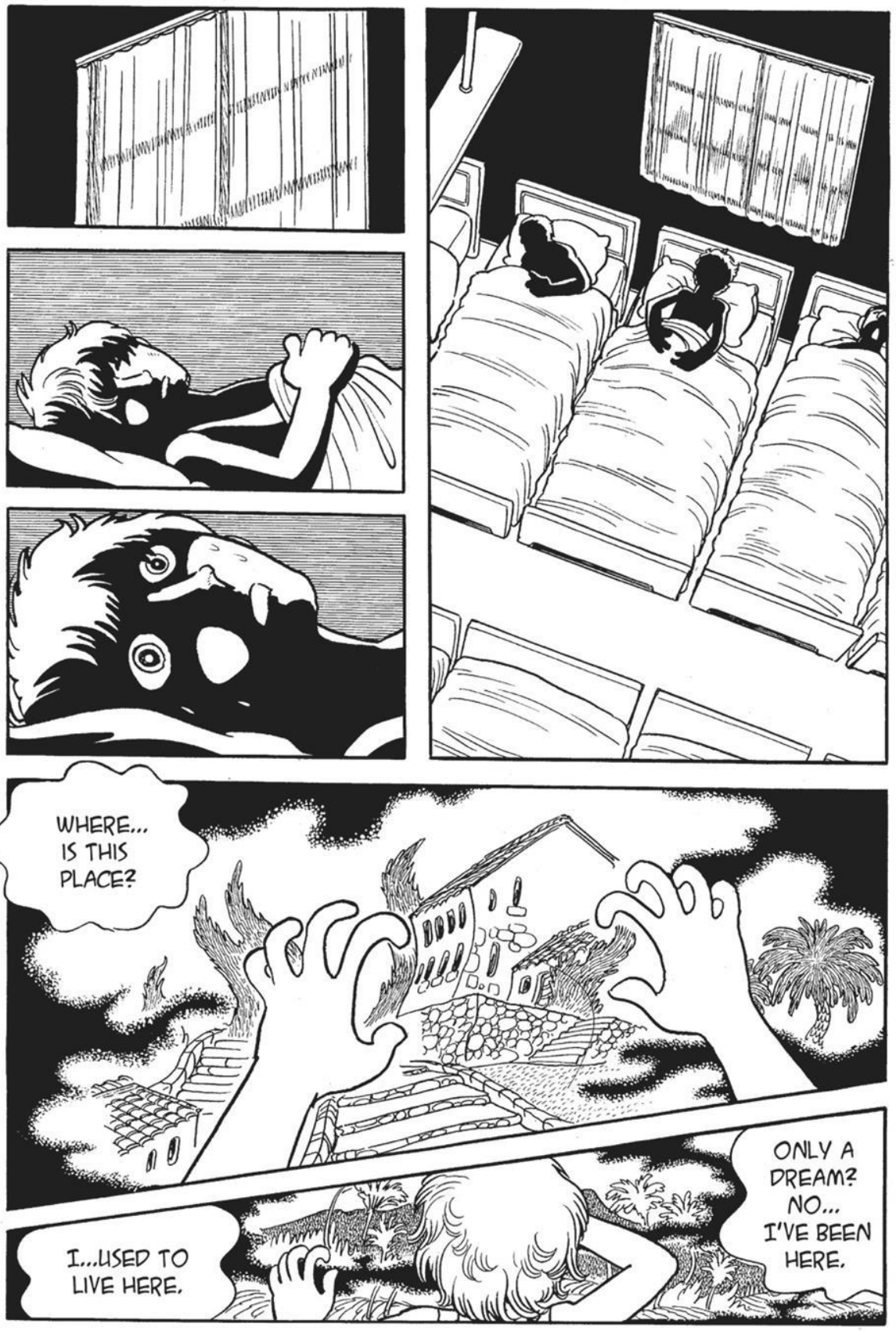
BUT I'VE BEEN FINE FOR YEARS NOW.
SCARS ON OTHER PEOPLE, I'D GROW WELTS IN THE SAME PLACE. I'D EVEN FEEL THE PAIN.

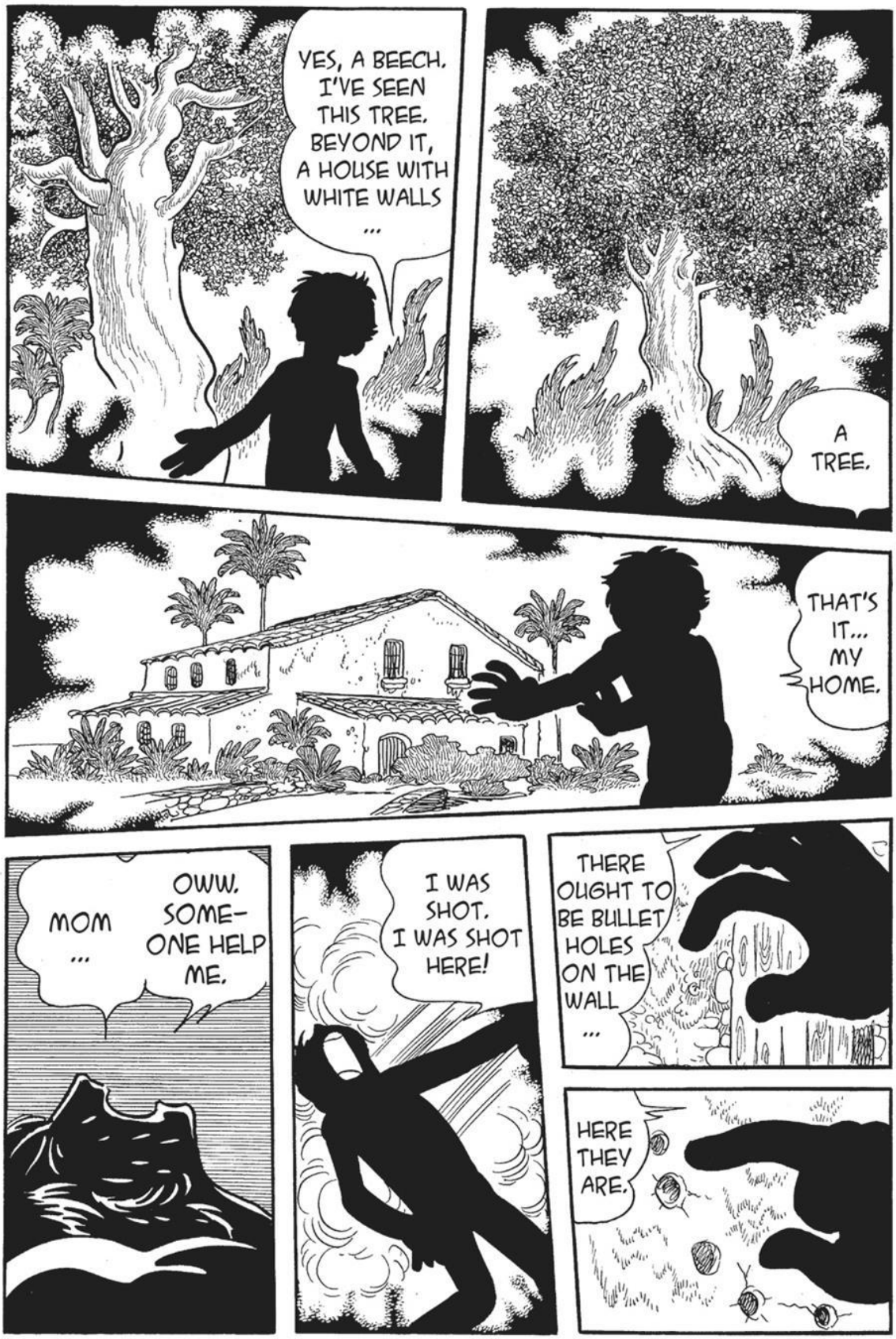

I WAS BORN WITH THE ALLERGY. WHENEVER I'D SEE...

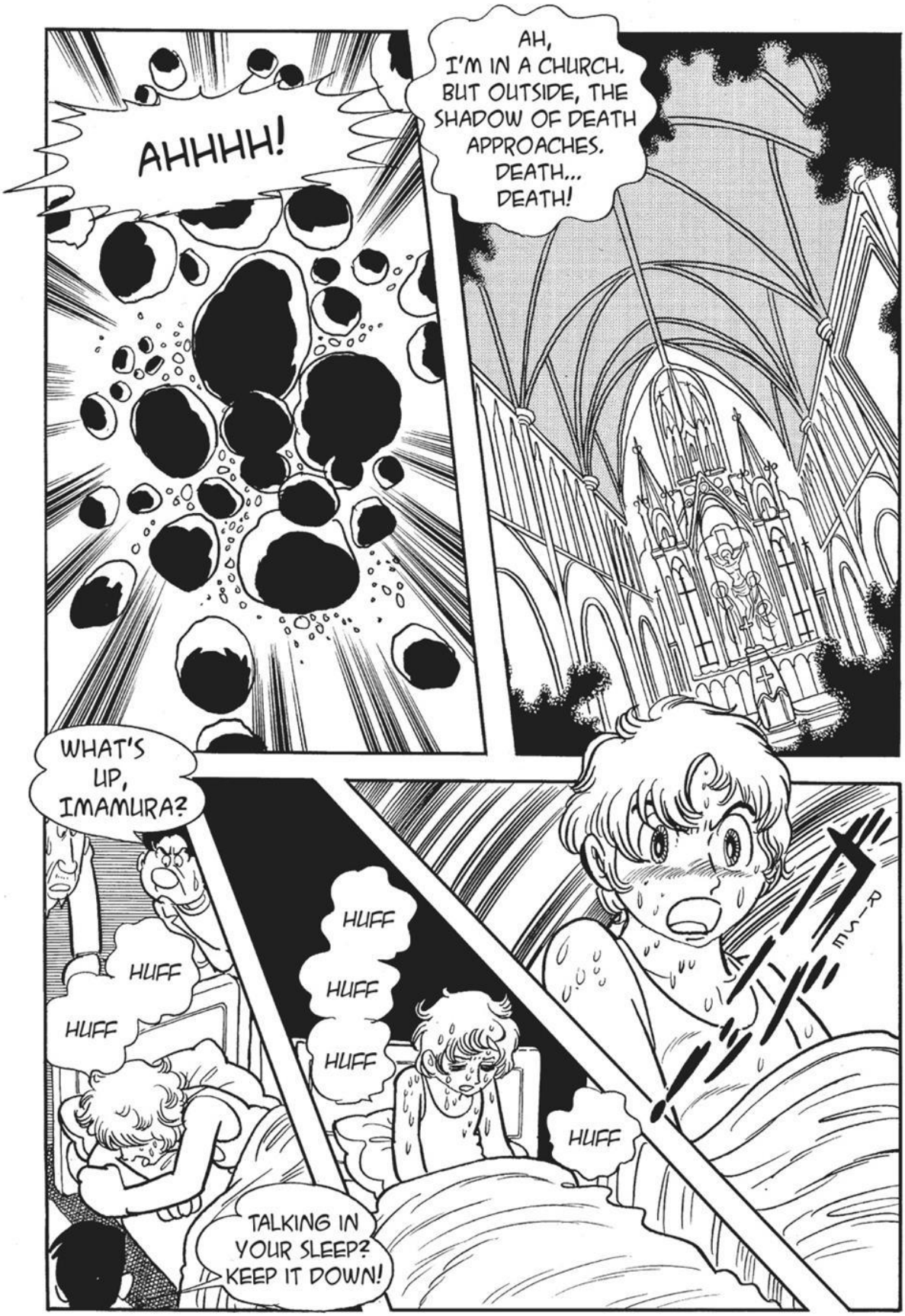

I'LL RANT AT HIM TILL I'M SATISFIED.

IT CAME BACK AS SOON AS I PICKED UP THAT GUY WITH A SCAR!


IF I EVER MEET HIM AGAIN


WHERE... IS THIS PLACE?
I...USED TO LIVE HERE.
ONLY A DREAM? NO... I'VE BEEN HERE.


YES, A BEECH. I'VE SEEN THIS TREE. BEYOND IT, A HOUSE WITH WHITE WALLS ...
A TREE.
THAT'S IT... MY HOME.
MOM ...
OWW. SOME-ONE HELP ME.
I WAS SHOT. I WAS SHOT HERE!
THERE OUGHT TO BE BULLET HOLES ON THE WALL ...
HERE THEY ARE.


AHHHH!
AH, I'M IN A CHURCH. BUT OUTSIDE, THE SHADOW OF DEATH APPROACHES. DEATH... DEATH!
WHAT'S UP, IMAMURA?
HUFF
HUFF
HUFF
HUFF
HUFF
HUFF
TALKING IN YOUR SLEEP? KEEP IT DOWN!

YES. I'LL GO WASH MY FACE.
YOU'VE BEEN WEIRD.
A NIGHT-MARE ?
GHOST!!
I S-SAW A WOMAN'S FACE IN THE MIRROR...
MNN?
WAKE UP, YOU FOOL!

I SAW IT. I'M SURE! THE FACE OF A WOMAN!
I'VE BEEN TOLD YOU SCREAM AT NIGHT AND MOUTH ABSURDITIES.
WHEN DID THIS START?
I DUNNO... PRETTY RECENTLY?
SO YOU'VE BEEN SEEING AND HEARING THINGS?
UH, IT'S NOTHING.
BOSS, I'M DOING FINE! PLEASE LET ME KEEP WORKING!
MIND TAKING TIME OFF FROM WORK?
GO SEE A DOC-TOR.
DAMMIT!
CAMERA
THEY ENTRUST THEIR LIVES TO US.
THINK ABOUT OUR CUSTOMERS.
YES, SIR.
IF YOU PUSH YOURSELF AND GET INTO AN ACCIDENT, THEN WHAT?

WHO ARE YOU?
I FOUND YOU, YOU BASTARD.
DON'T YOU REMEMBER? YOU RODE IN MY TAXI ABOUT A MONTH AGO!

THANKS TO PICKING YOU UP THAT DAY, I'VE LOST MY LUCK!
SHUT UP!
TAXI? AND? DID I GET OFF WITHOUT PAYING?

DAMN YOU

HOW'S THAT ANY OF MY BUSINESS?

WAIT A MINUTE! I'LL HEAR YOU OUT.
I WAS FIRED AND HAVE BAD DREAMS EVERY NIGHT BECAUSE OF YOU!
CALM DOWN!
SMAK
DON'T RAISE A FUSS IN FRONT OF SO MANY PEOPLE. TALK TO ME.
I REMEMBER NOW. YOU DROVE AWFULLY ROUGH AND GREW A WELT ON YOUR FACE.
WE'LL GO SOMEWHERE QUIETER.

HURRY UP AND TELL ME.

...

NOW BE MY GUEST. SPEAK.
酒ビル
定食

HUH.

WHOA, TAKE IT EASY !!
SHOW ME YOUR SKIN. I WANT TO SEE IF IT'S JUST YOUR FACE.

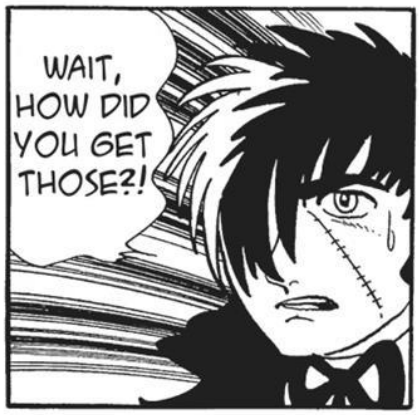
WHA

STRIP.

TSK!

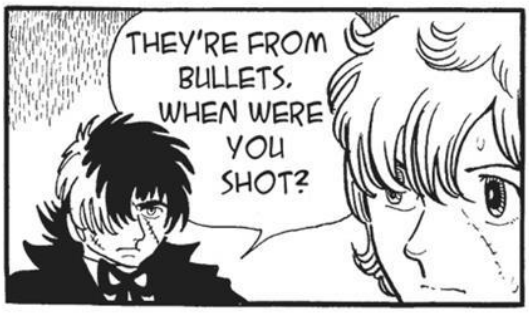
THAT I AM
MAYBE IF YOU WERE A DOCTOR!

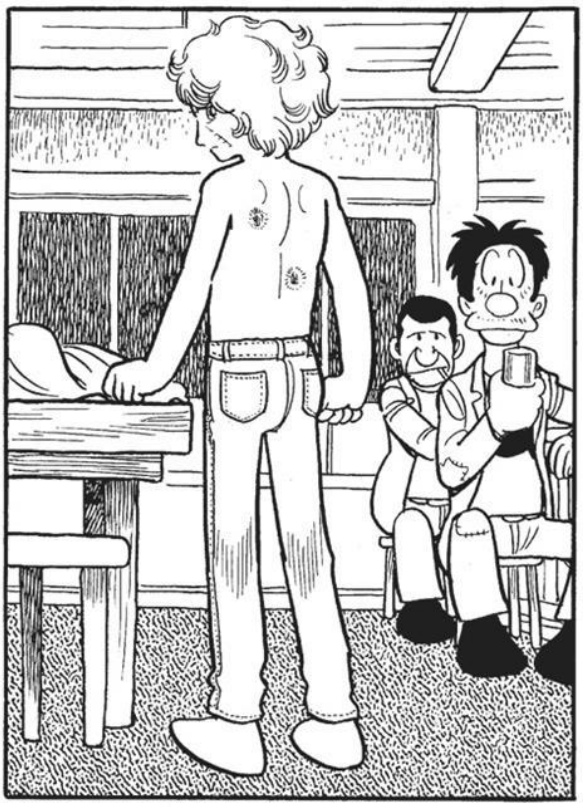
HEY, I'M WILLING TO LISTEN TO YOUR TALL TALE. CAN'T I EXPECT A LITTLE SERVICE IN RETURN?


WAIT, HOW DID YOU GET THOSE?!

I'M NOT LICENSED.
AFTER A MANNER.

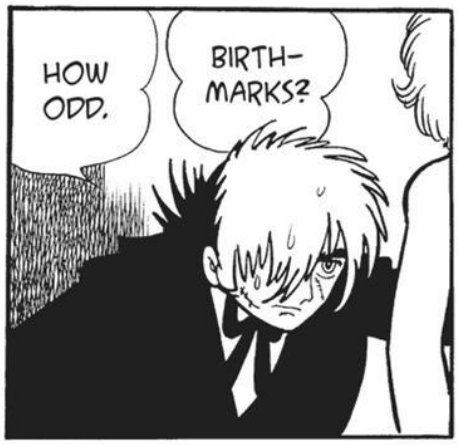
REALLY A DOC?
ARE YOU


THEY'RE FROM BULLETS. WHEN WERE YOU SHOT?

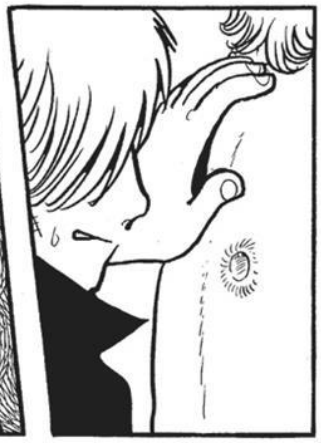


THESE ARE BIRTH-MARKS.
WHO SAYS I WAS SHOT?

DON'T LIE TO ME!

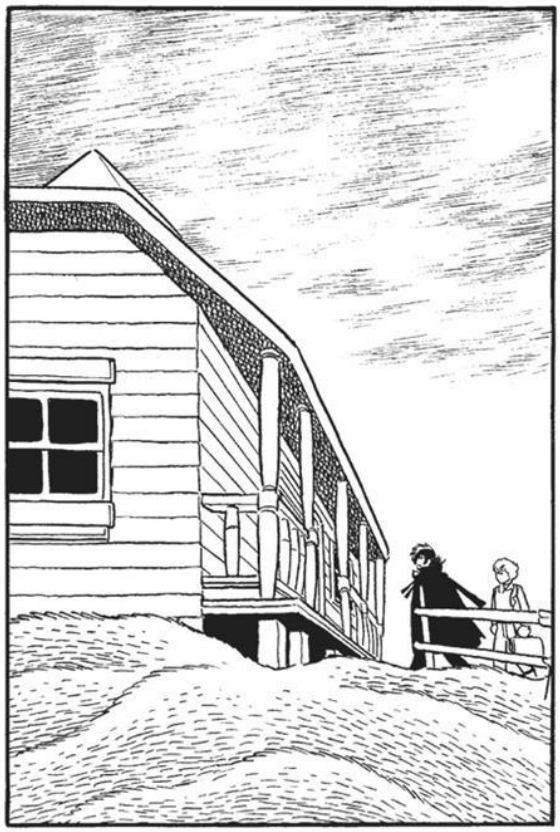

HOW ODD.
BIRTH-MARKS?

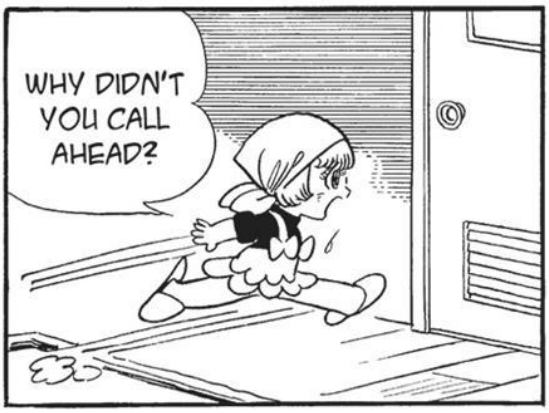
IT'S TRUE, I'VE HAD THEM SINCE BIRTH. EVERYONE MAKES THE MISTAKE.

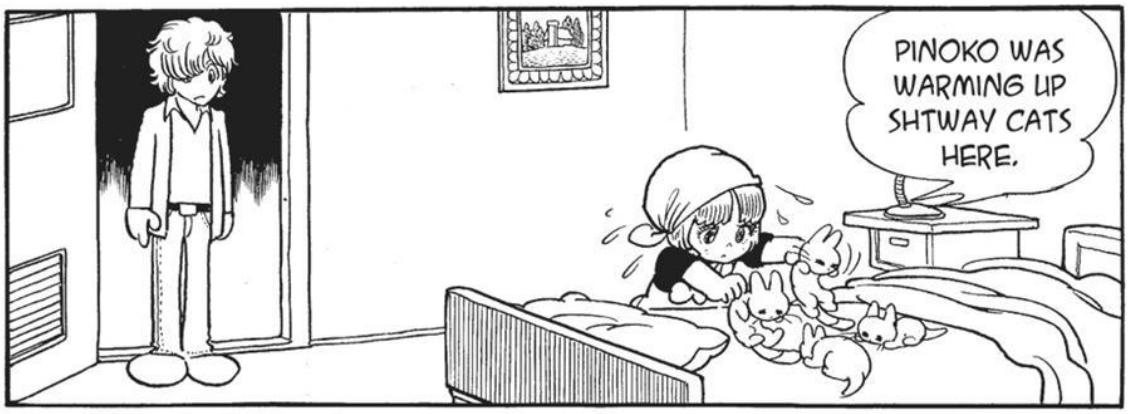


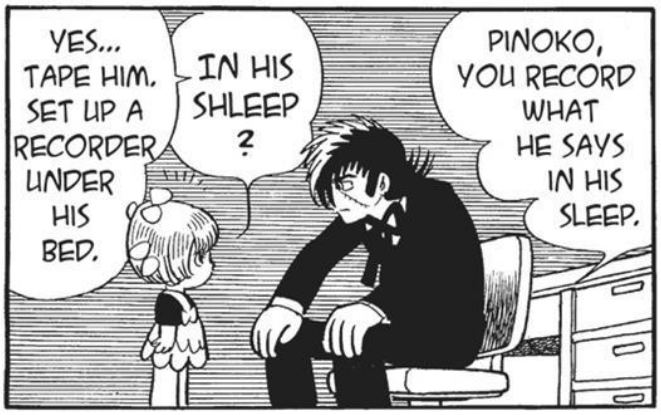
AND SO, WHAT DO YOU WANT FROM ME?
SH... SHUT UP!
STRIP-TEASE'S OVER?
OKAY, GET DRESSED.
I WILL FOR THE RIGHT TERMS.
BUT IT CAME BACK THANKS TO YOU. YOU BETTER CURE IT.
I TOLD YOU! I'D GOTTEN OVER MY ALLERGY AND HAD FORGOTTEN ABOUT IT
F-FINE. I'LL PAY UP IF YOU CURE ME. BUT IF YOU FAIL ...
I'M PAID MY DUE FOR MY WORK. IT'LL PROBABLY MEAN ALL OF YOUR SAVINGS.
TERMS? DON'T TALK LIKE I OWE YOU.
TO MY HOUSE.
YOU'RE CHECKING INTO MY CLINIC.
COME WITH ME.
I WON'T FAIL.
WHERE ARE WE GOING ?

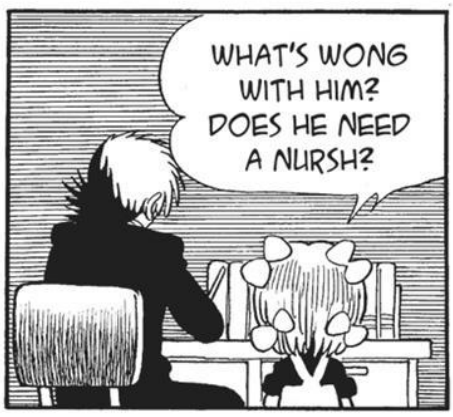
BWA!
WE HAVE AN IN-PATIENT.




WHY DIDN'T YOU CALL AHEAD?

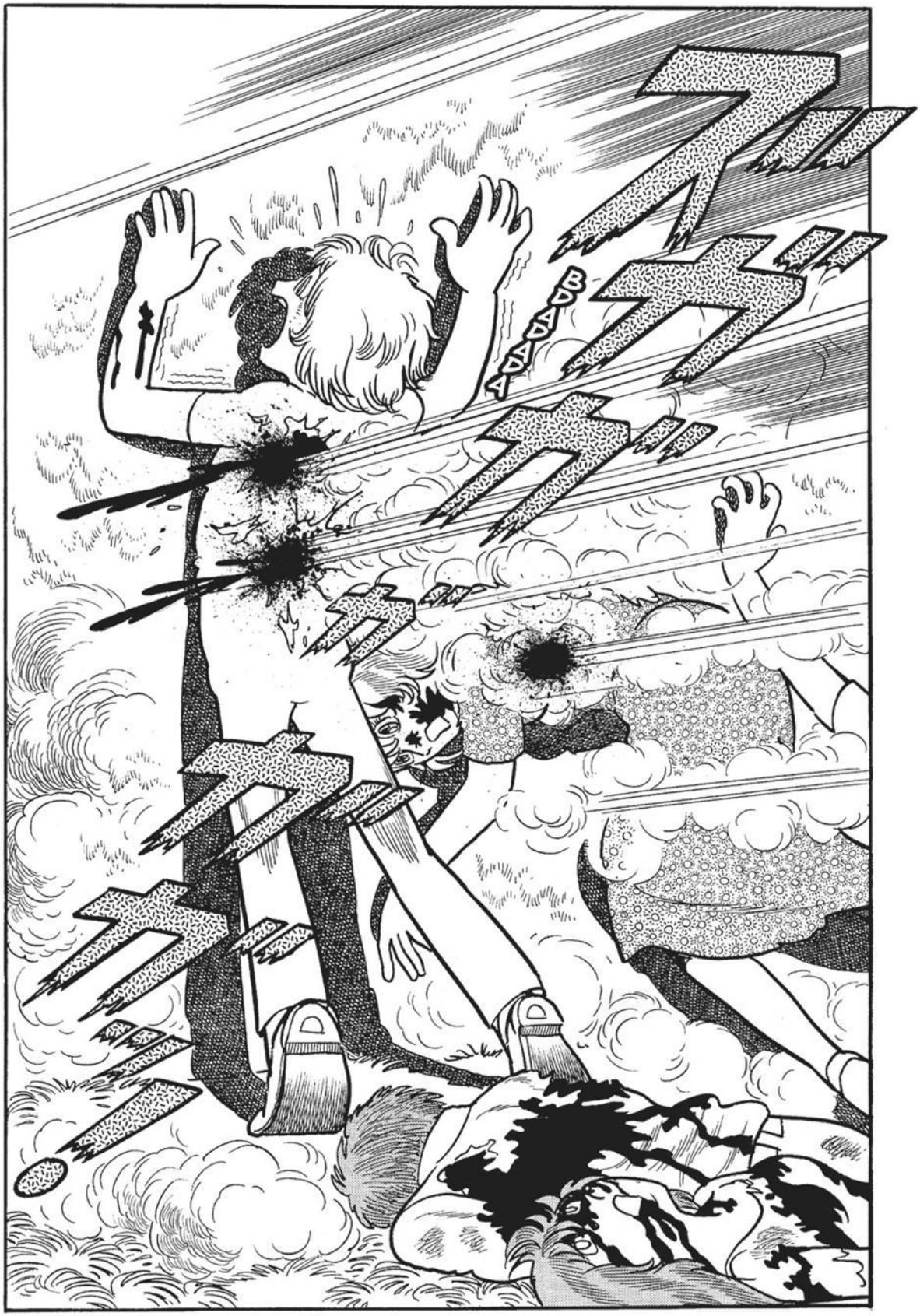

PINOKO WAS WARMING UP SHTWAY CATS HERE.

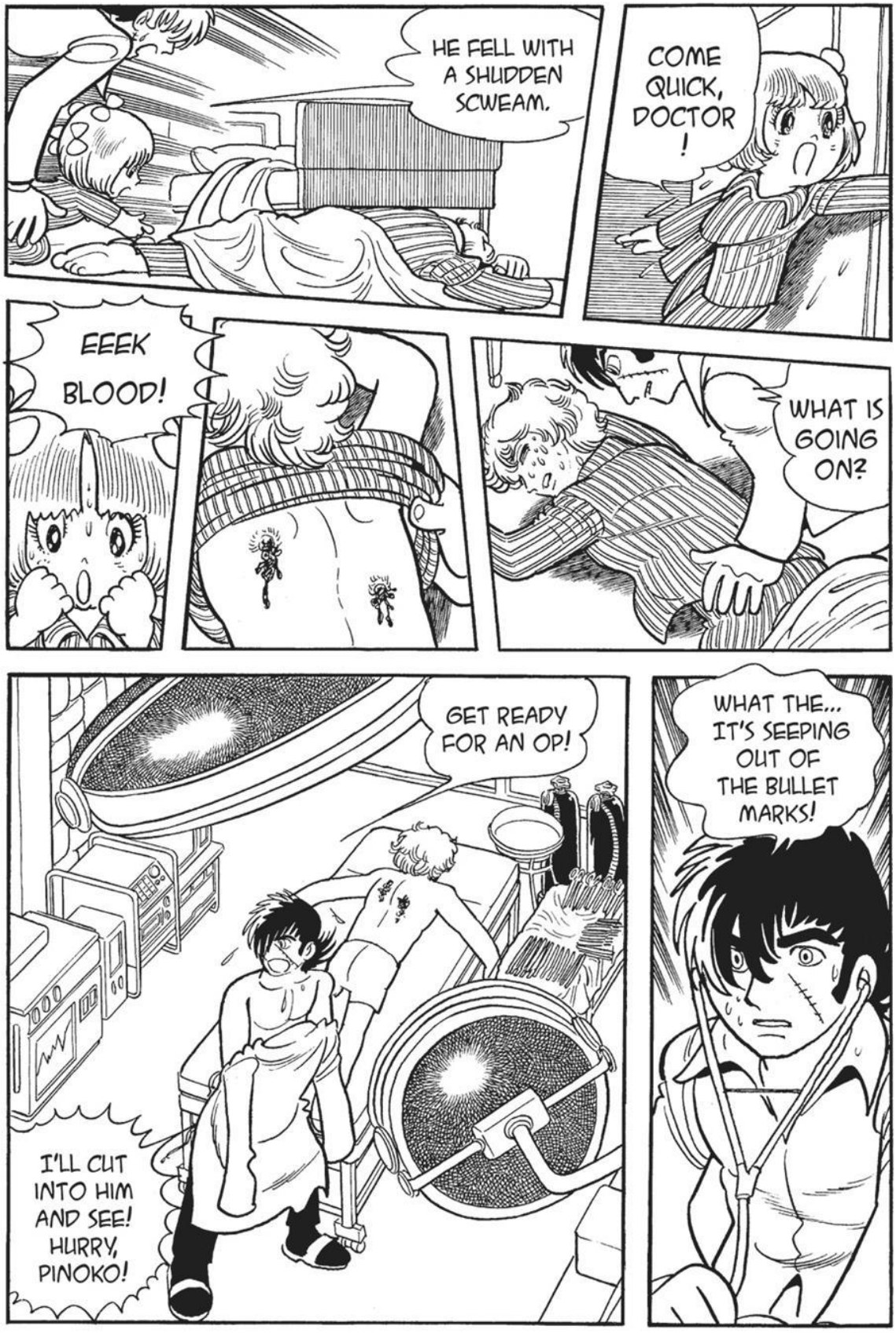

YES... TAPE HIM. SET UP A RECORDER UNDER HIS BED.
IN HIS SHLEEP ?
PINOKO, YOU RECORD WHAT HE SAYS IN HIS SLEEP.


WHAT'S WONG WITH HIM? DOES HE NEED A NURSH?

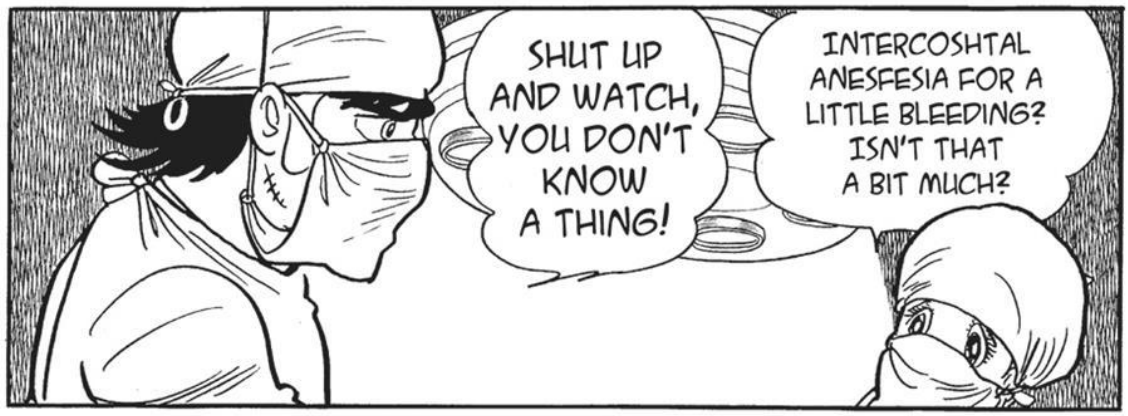
SOMZ
SOMZ
WE OUGHT TO BE TAPING A MUSIC PWOGWAM INSHTEAD!
STOP KIDDING AROUND!
WHAT IS THIS?
SOMZ
HE TALKS IN HIS SHLEEP? HE'S NOT EVEN SHNORING. NO FUN.
WE GOT HIS BWEATH-ING.
ビーヴスー
ヴスー
ボゴスー
PHEWG
HRRG
MAYBE IF IT'S CLOSE TO HIS FACE...

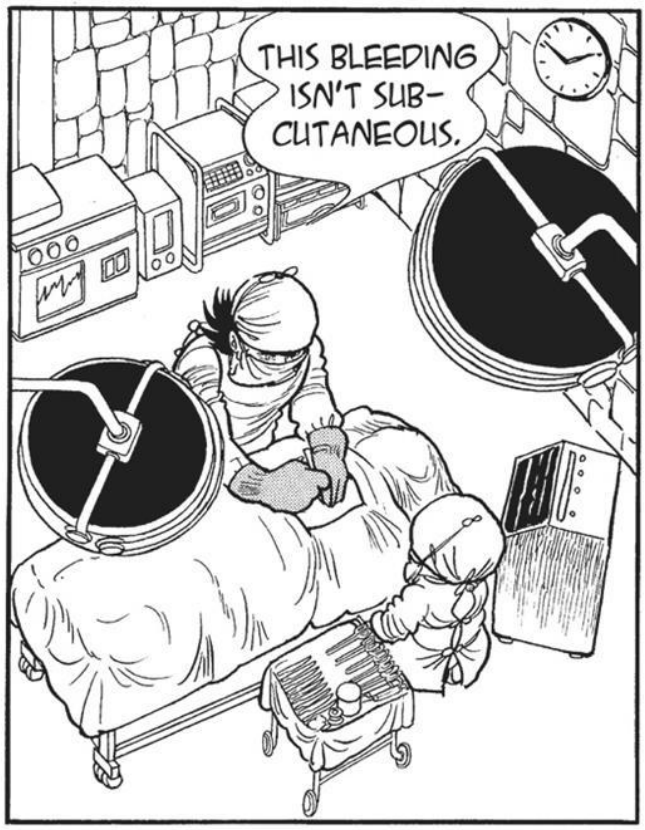
AH!
AAAH!
ALL OF YOU, RUN... YOU'LL GET KILLED...
UNNGH
I'M GONNA GET SHOT! ANITA, MOM, RUN! AAAH!
H-HELP... RUN FOR THE CHURCH.
WHAT'S WONG? HEY, CAREFUL!
ANITA!!

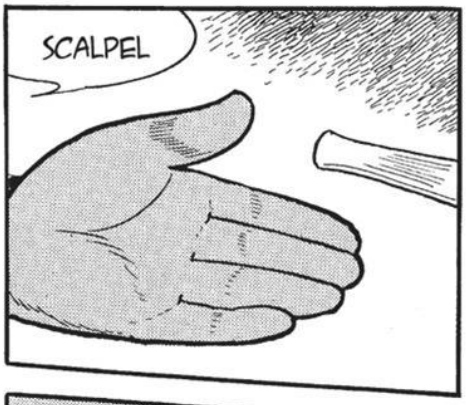

BDADDA

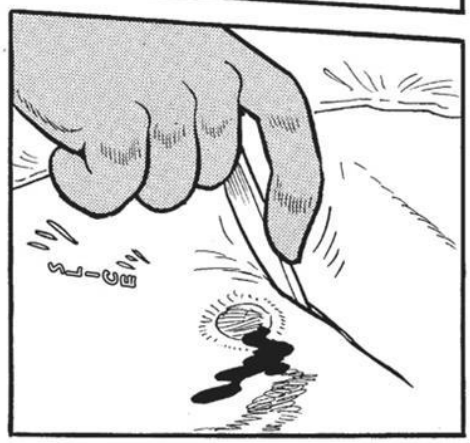

HE FELL WITH A SHUDDEN SCWEAM.
COME QUICK, DOCTOR !
EEEK BLOOD!
WHAT IS GOING ON?
GET READY FOR AN OP!
I'LL CUT INTO HIM AND SEE! HURRY, PINOKO!
WHAT THE... IT'S SEEPING OUT OF THE BULLET MARKS!

XYLOCAINE ONE PERCENT. 22-GAUGE NEEDLE!
...
BIG OP, HUH?
...
PLIP

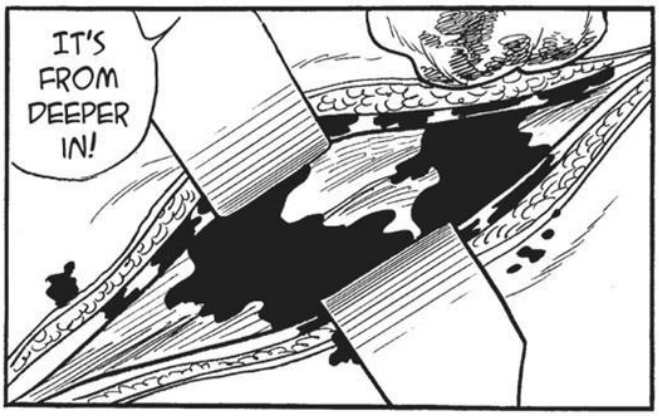

SHUT UP AND WATCH, YOU DON'T KNOW A THING!
INTERCOSHTAL ANESFESIA FOR A LITTLE BLEEDING? ISN'T THAT A BIT MUCH?

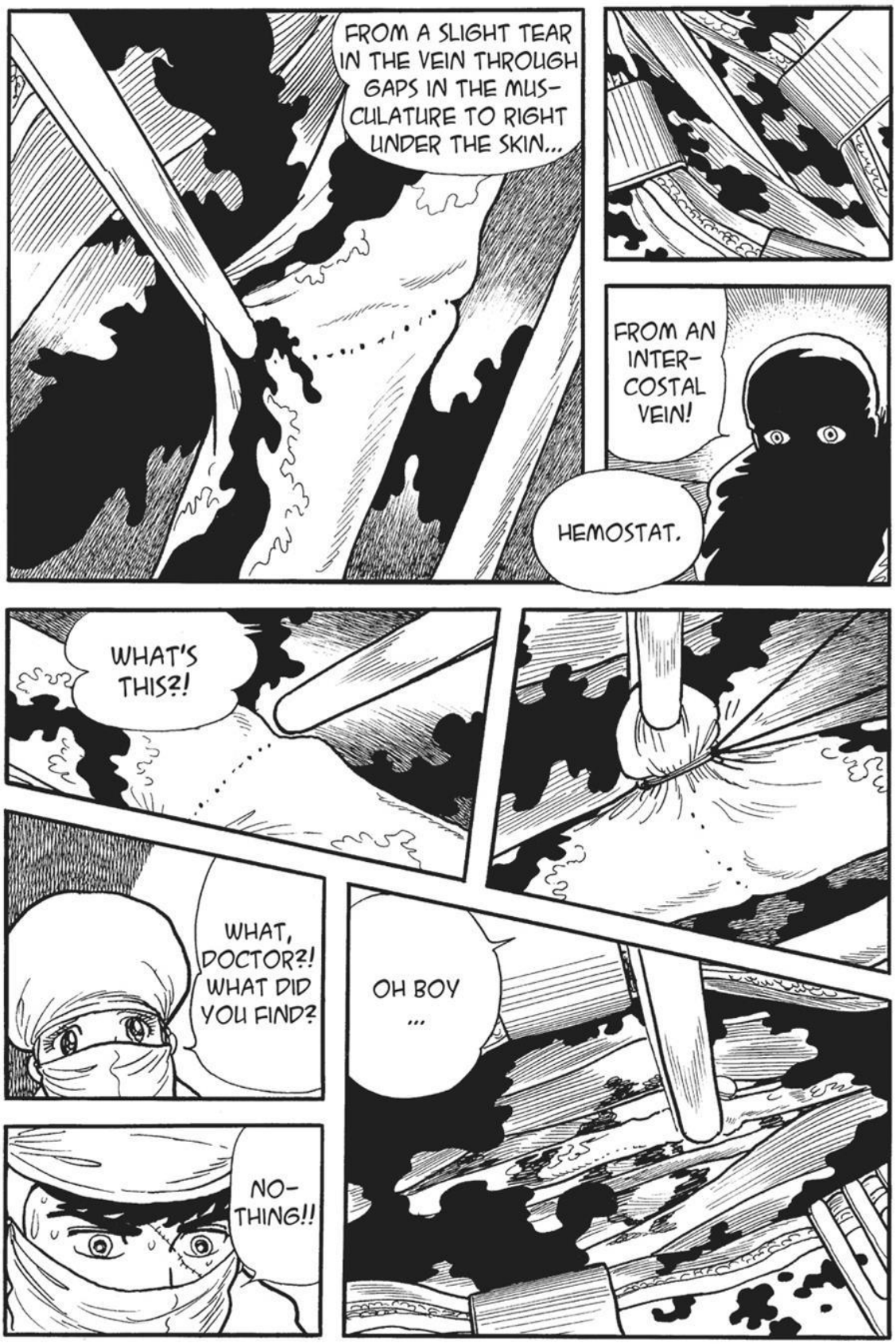

THIS BLEEDING ISN'T SUB-CUTANEOUS.

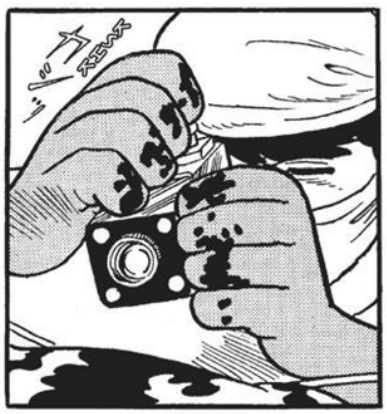

SCALPEL



DEEPER EVEN THAN THE DORSAL FASCIAE.
JUST AS I FEARED!

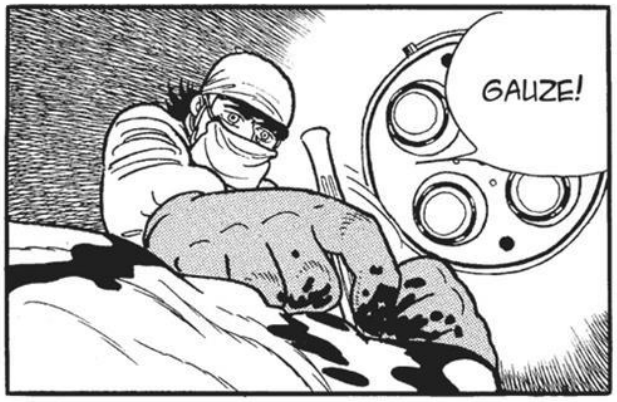

IT'S FROM DEEPER IN!

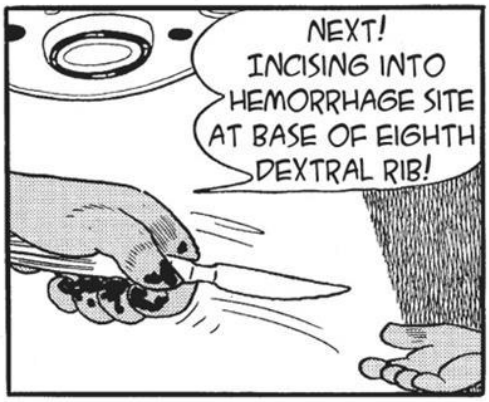

FROM A SLIGHT TEAR IN THE VEIN THROUGH GAPS IN THE MUS-CULATURE TO RIGHT UNDER THE SKIN...
FROM AN INTER-COSTAL VEIN!
HEMOSTAT.
WHAT'S THIS?!
WHAT, DOCTOR?! WHAT DID YOU FIND?
OH BOY ...
NO-THING!!


カ
KSHK

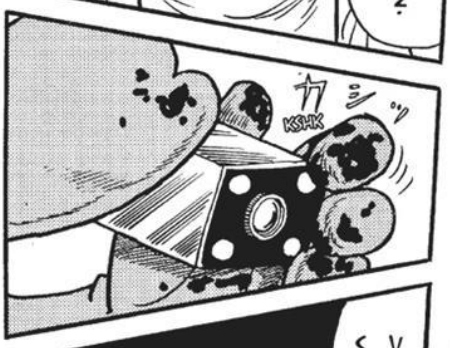
HAND ME THE CAMERA!

WHAT?
CAM-ERA ...


GAUZE!


NEXT! INCISING INTO HEMORRHAGE SITE AT BASE OF EIGHTH DEXTRAL RIB!

WHAT DOES HE HAVE?
WHAT IS IT THAT YOU SHEE ?

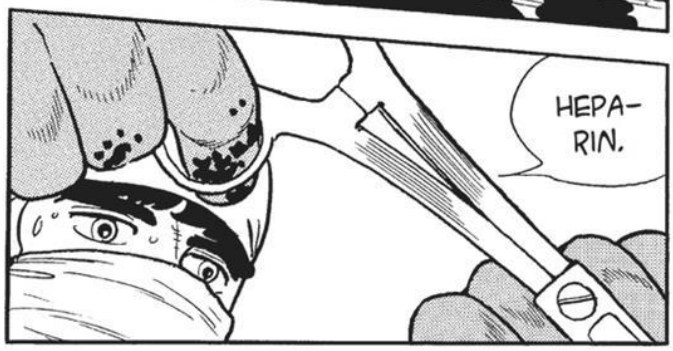

カシ
KSHK

SUTURER VESSEL

HERE TOO!!

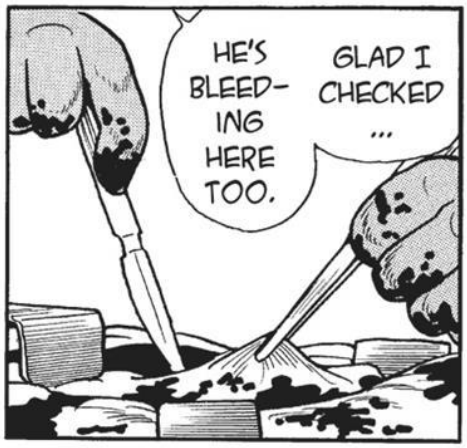
IT WON'T DO. SUCTION!

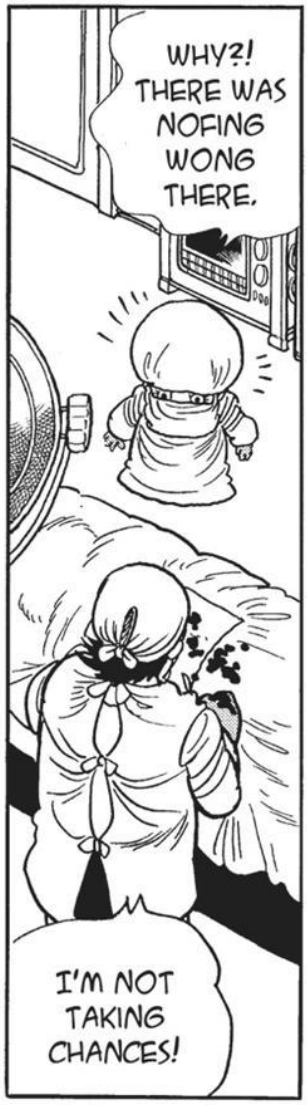
WAIT... MORE THAN TWO?
WHY IN TWO SPOTS?


HEPA-RIN.

QUICK, SCAL-PEL!

PIN-CERS!


HE'S BLEED-ING HERE TOO.
GLAD I CHECKED ...


WHY?! THERE WAS NOFING WONG THERE.
I'M NOT TAKING CHANCES!

ARE WE DONE YET?

NO, WE ARE NOT.

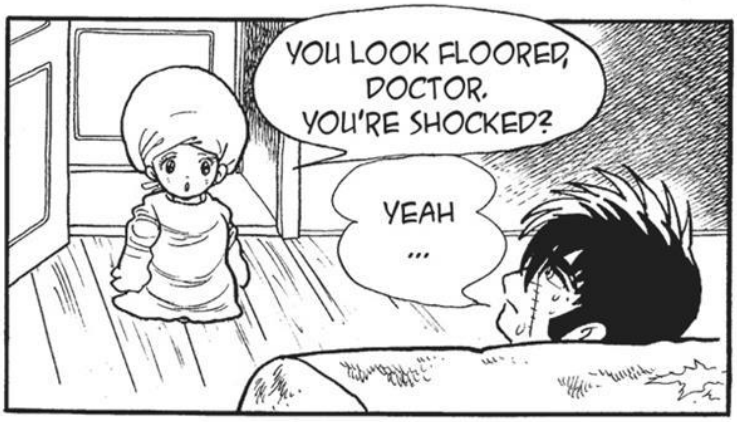
I'LL CHECK THE BASE OF THE 11TH RIB!

THIS ONE, TOO ...

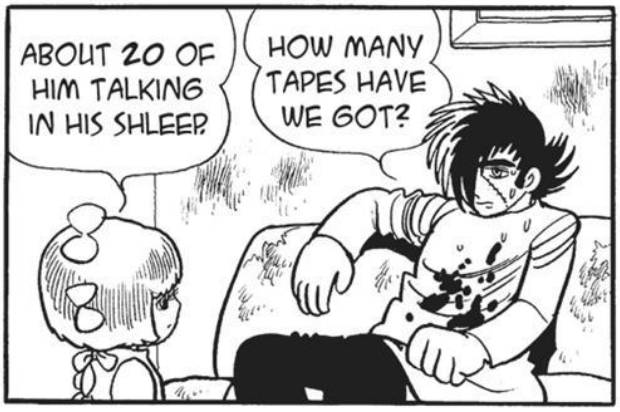
SUC-TION!

I CAN'T BE SURE UNTIL I EXAMINE THE PHOTOS. WE MIGHT NEED TO OPERATE AGAIN.

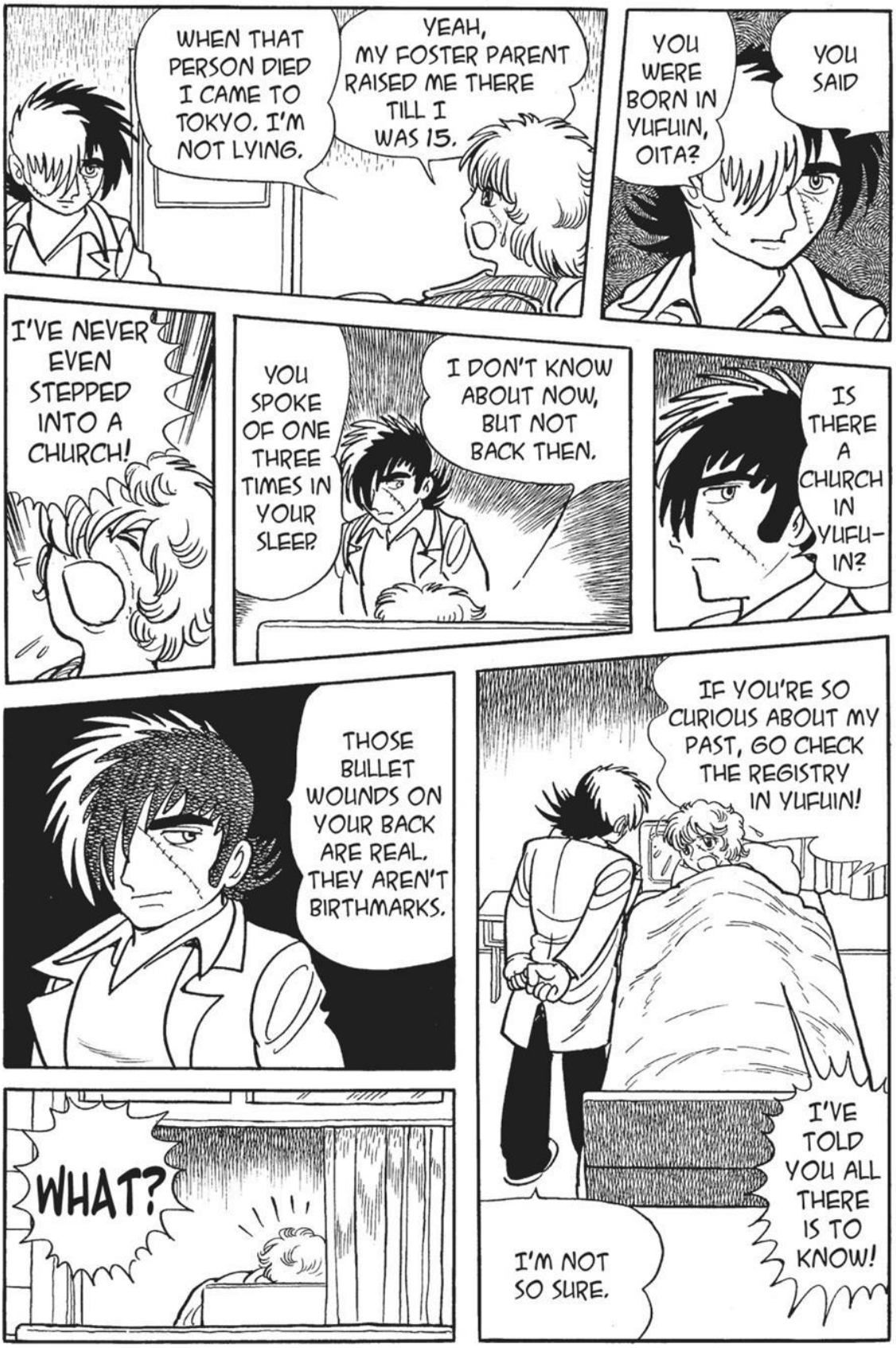
WHY WON'T YOU TELL PINOKO?


YOU LOOK FLOORED, DOCTOR. YOU'RE SHOCKED?
YEAH ...

I'LL LISTEN TO THEM RIGHT AWAY. PUT THEM ON MY DESK.


ABOUT 20 OF HIM TALKING IN HIS SHLEEP.
HOW MANY TAPES HAVE WE GOT?

H-HELP... RUN FOR THE CHURCH.
ANITA?
ANITA, MOM, RUN!
ALL OF YOU, RUN... YOU'LL GET KILLED...
AH!
AHHH!
I NEED A CLUE.
HM, NONE OF IT MAKES ANY SENSE.
UH UHH
IT HURTS! DOCTOR, HELP!!
LET ME ASK YOU AGAIN. WHO IS ANITA?
I TOLD YOU, I DON'T KNOW WHAT AN "ITA" IS.
ANITA, NOT "AN ITA."


WHEN THAT PERSON DIED I CAME TO TOKYO. I'M NOT LYING.
YEAH, MY FOSTER PARENT RAISED ME THERE TILL I WAS 15.
YOU WERE BORN IN YUFUIN, OITA?
YOU SAID
I'VE NEVER EVEN STEPPED INTO A CHURCH!
YOU SPOKE OF ONE THREE TIMES IN YOUR SLEEP.
I DON'T KNOW ABOUT NOW, BUT NOT BACK THEN.
IS THERE A CHURCH IN YUFU-IN?
THOSE BULLET WOUNDS ON YOUR BACK ARE REAL. THEY AREN'T BIRTHMARKS.
WHAT?
IF YOU'RE SO CURIOUS ABOUT MY PAST, GO CHECK THE REGISTRY IN YUFUIN!
I'VE TOLD YOU ALL THERE IS TO KNOW!
I'M NOT SO SURE.

YOU MUST HAVE STILL BEEN A BABY. THEY LOOK LIKE MERE BIRTHMARKS BECAUSE THEY HEALED AS YOU GREW UP.

YOU WERE SHOT.

I COULDN'T TELL UNTIL I CUT YOU OPEN. SOMEBODY HANDLED YOUR SUB-CUTANEOUS TISSUE, BLOOD VESSELS, RIBS.

THAT'S A LIE! WHERE ARE MY SURGICAL SCARS, THEN?!

THAT CAN'T BE!!

YOU WERE SHOT AND TREATED FOR IT.

LISTEN, KID. OUR SKINS HAVE GRAINS THAT AREN'T VISIBLE TO THE EYE. INCISIONS MADE ALONG THEM CLOSE NICELY AND LEAVE JUST A LINE RATHER THAN A SCAR.

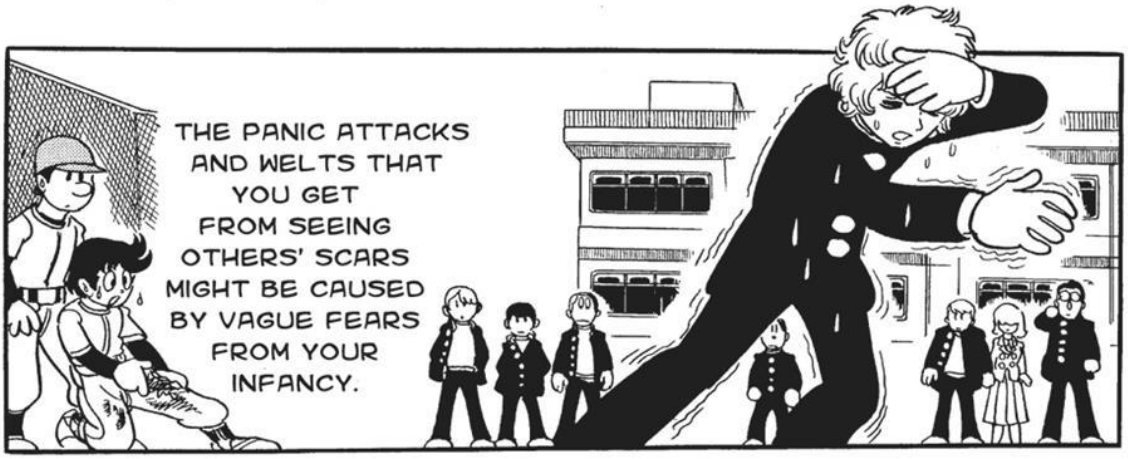
BUT YOUR INTERNAL ORGANS HAVE THEM!
YOUR SKIN WAS FINELY INCISED ALONG THAT GRAIN.
THAT'S WHY YOUR SKIN IS FREE OF SCARS.
HEY DOCTOR, THE PHOTOS WERE WEADY!
I TOOK PICSH OF YOU WITH THE EXTWA FILM.
YOU FOOL! WHAT'RE THESE FOR?
GIVE ME THE ONES I NEED!
HERE.

OKAY, KID. HAVE A LOOK.
THE TISSUE HAS A BUMP.
AWEN'T I SHEXY?
DON'T TRY ME!
SIGN OF SURGERY HERE TOO. A SUTURED BLOOD VESSEL...
AND ON A RIB!
SOME STRESS OR SHOCK YOU FELT CAUSED THOSE OLD SCARS TO PULL AND TEAR A LITTLE.

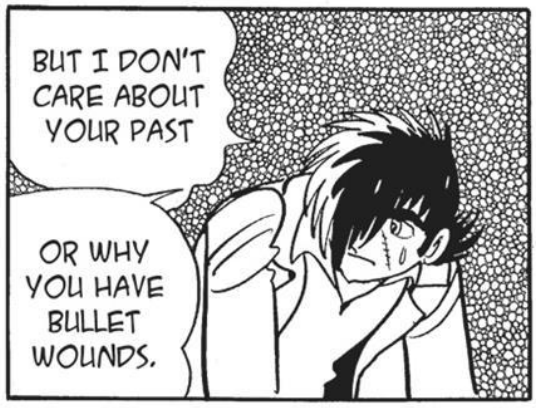
YOU DON'T REMEMBER? NO WONDER YOU DON'T.

YOU WERE ONLY A BABY BACK THEN.

BUT ...


THE PANIC ATTACKS AND WELTS THAT YOU GET FROM SEEING OTHERS' SCARS MIGHT BE CAUSED BY VAGUE FEARS FROM YOUR INFANCY.

BUT THE MAN WHO LEFT NOT ONE SCAR ON A BABY IS AN ARTIST.
BECAUSE THAT PERSON IS A GENIUS. I CONSIDER MYSELF THE BEST IN THE WORLD,


BUT I DON'T CARE ABOUT YOUR PAST
OR WHY YOU HAVE BULLET WOUNDS.

I JUST WANT TO KNOW WHO DID THE OP!

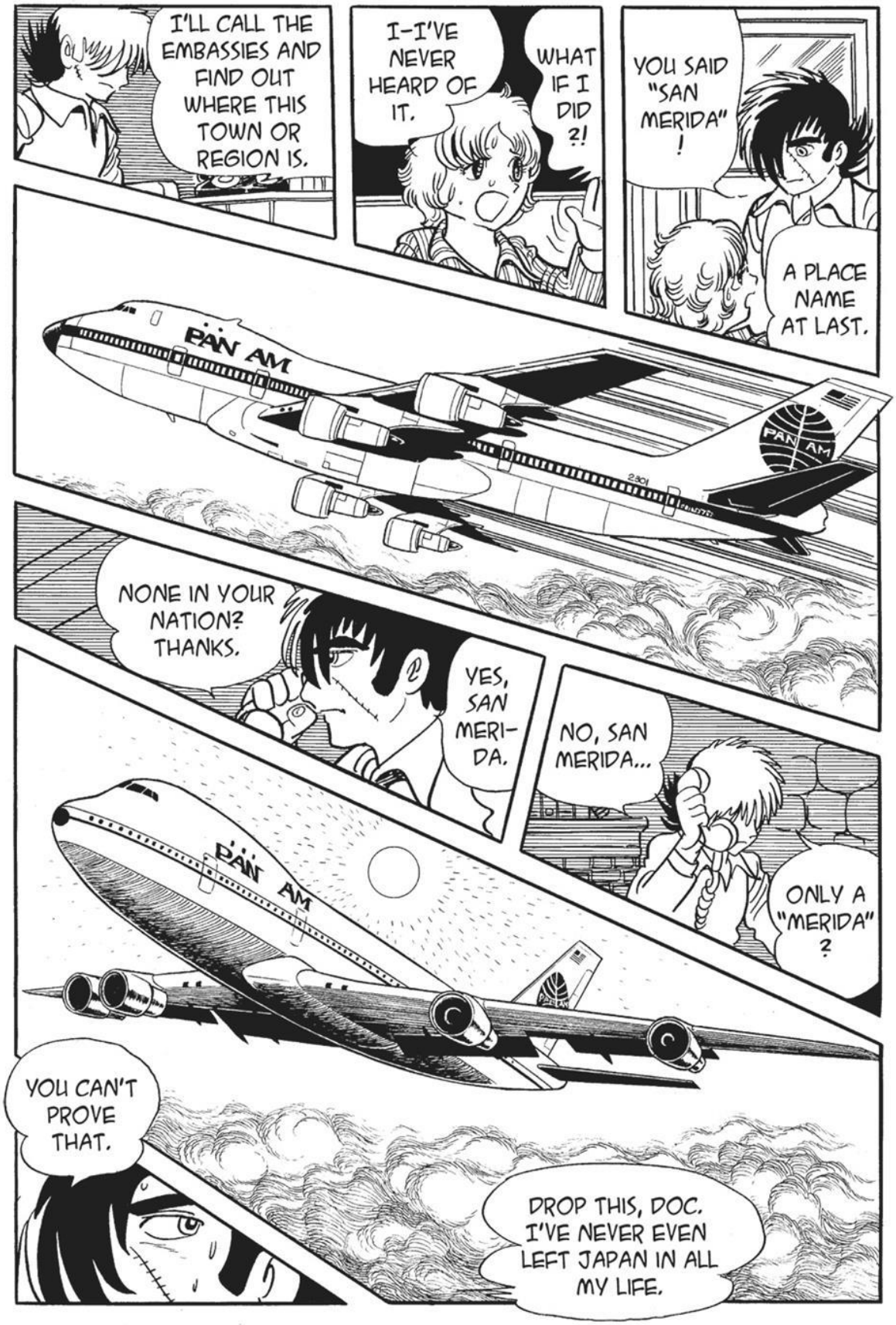
I WANT TO MEET THE MAN! HE IS MY TRUE RIVAL!

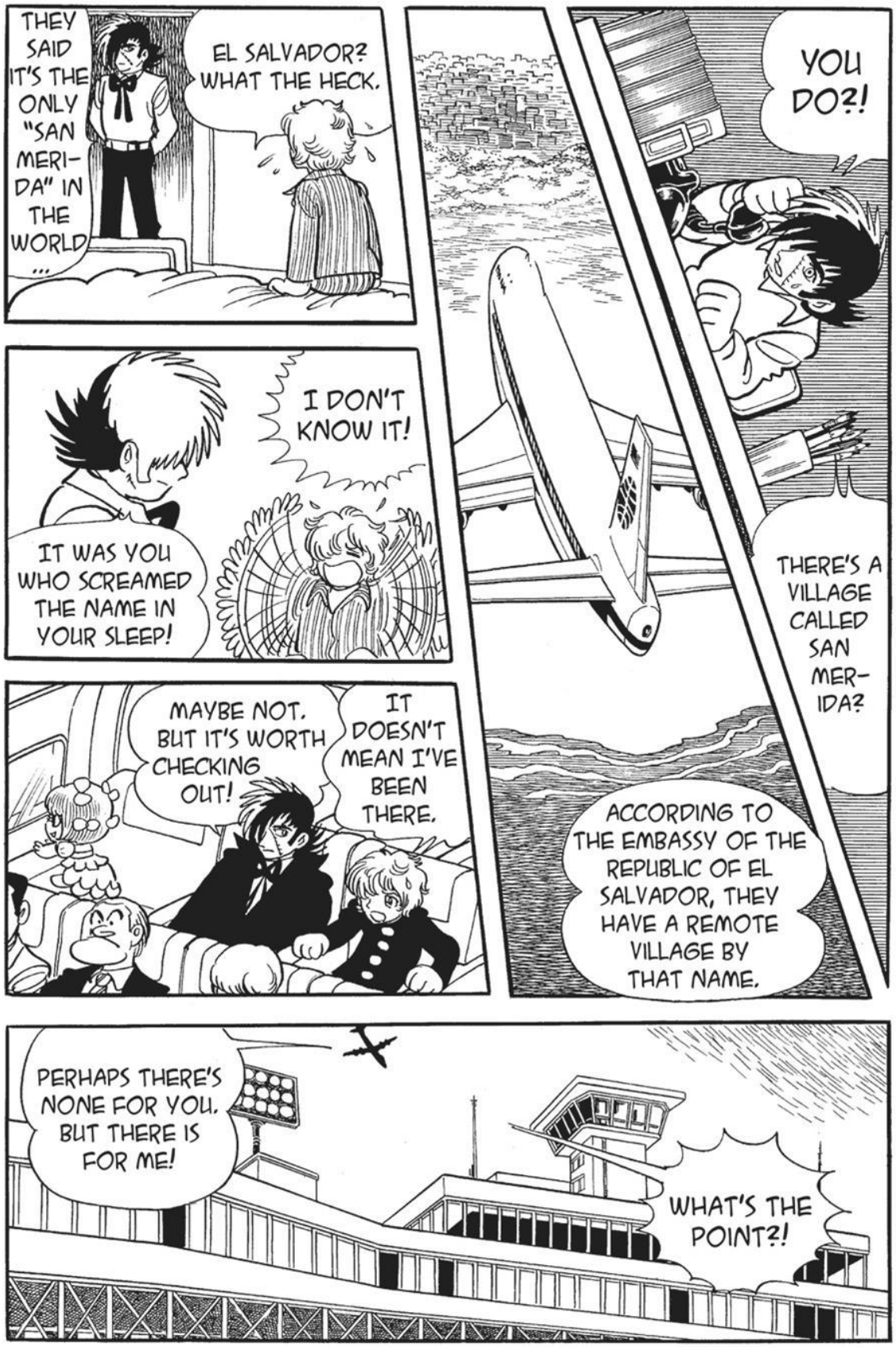
HE HAS TO BE AS GOOD AS ME... MAYBE EVEN BETTER.

INDIA
ROLL
ROLL
FLASH
RUMBLE
BDAM

BOOM
RUMBLE
HIDE IN THE CHURCH. WE'LL MEET IN SAN MERIDA.
MOM !!
RUMBLE
IT'S HERE!
HURRY, ANITA, RUN!
BDADAM

H...ELP
AAAH !!
GO AWAY!
ARGH
ANOTHER NIGHTMARE?
URR
ACK!
UHH

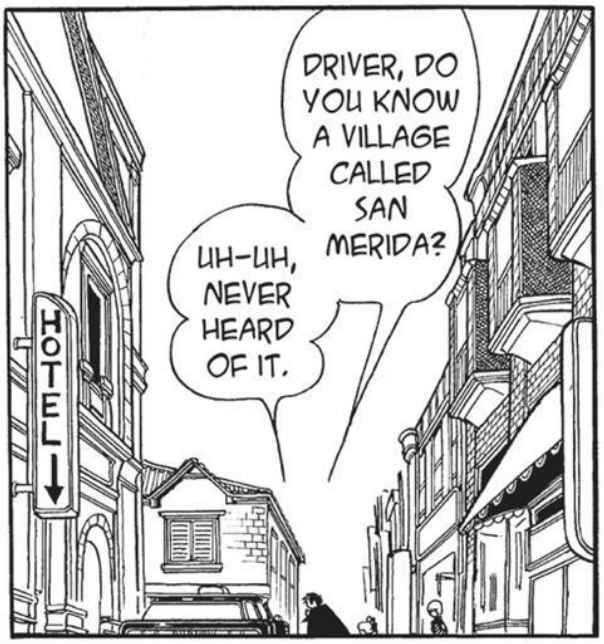

I'LL CALL THE EMBASSIES AND FIND OUT WHERE THIS TOWN OR REGION IS.
I-I'VE NEVER HEARD OF IT.
WHAT IF I DID ?!
YOU SAID "SAN MERIDA" !
A PLACE NAME AT LAST.
PAN AM
NONE IN YOUR NATION? THANKS.
YES, SAN MERI-DA.
NO, SAN MERIDA...
ONLY A "MERIDA" ?
YOU CAN'T PROVE THAT.
DROP THIS, DOC. I'VE NEVER EVEN LEFT JAPAN IN ALL MY LIFE.


THEY SAID IT'S THE ONLY "SAN MERI-DA" IN THE WORLD ...
EL SALVADOR? WHAT THE HECK.
I DON'T KNOW IT!
IT WAS YOU WHO SCREAMED THE NAME IN YOUR SLEEP!
MAYBE NOT. BUT IT'S WORTH CHECKING OUT!
IT DOESN'T MEAN I'VE BEEN THERE.
YOU DO?!
THERE'S A VILLAGE CALLED SAN MER-IDA?
ACCORDING TO THE EMBASSY OF THE REPUBLIC OF EL SALVADOR, THEY HAVE A REMOTE VILLAGE BY THAT NAME.
PERHAPS THERE'S NONE FOR YOU. BUT THERE IS FOR ME!
WHAT'S THE POINT?!

SCAWEY! DO JAPANESE GET KILLED TOO?
WE HAVE A POPULATION OF 4 MILLION, HALF OF IT MESTIZO. EL SALVADOR IS POLITICALLY INSTABLE, A GOVERNMENT BACKED BY LANDOWNERS IN CONSTANT VIOLENT STRIFE WITH GUERILLAS.
EL SALVADOR! A FIRST FOR ME, TOO.

IT'S STRAIGHT AHEAD.
YEAH, I KNOW IT.

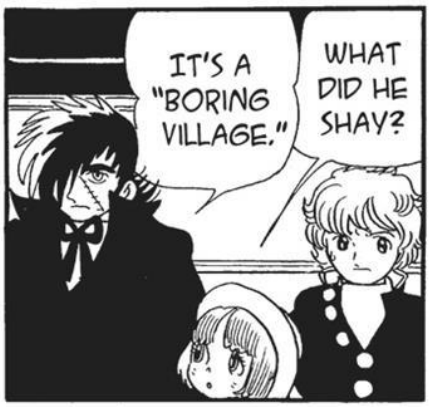
TAXI

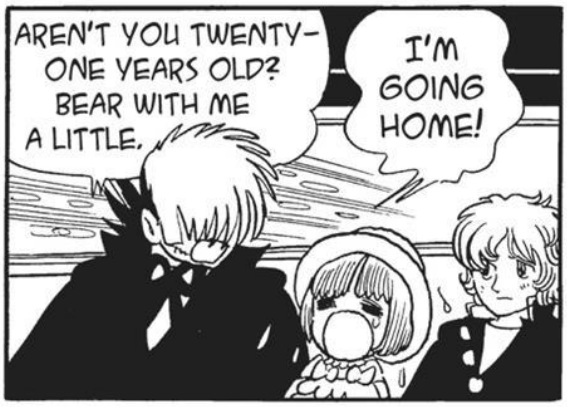

DRIVER, DO YOU KNOW A VILLAGE CALLED SAN MERIDA?
UH-UH, NEVER HEARD OF IT.
HOTEL

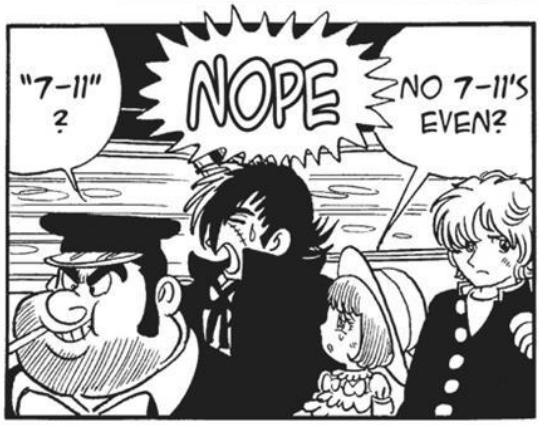
WHY ARE YOU VISITING THAT BORING VILLAGE?
TAXI
YOU'RE FROM JAPAN?

NOPE!
SHWIM-MING POOL?

NO-WHERE TO SHOP?
NOPE.


IT'S A "BORING VILLAGE."
WHAT DID HE SHAY?

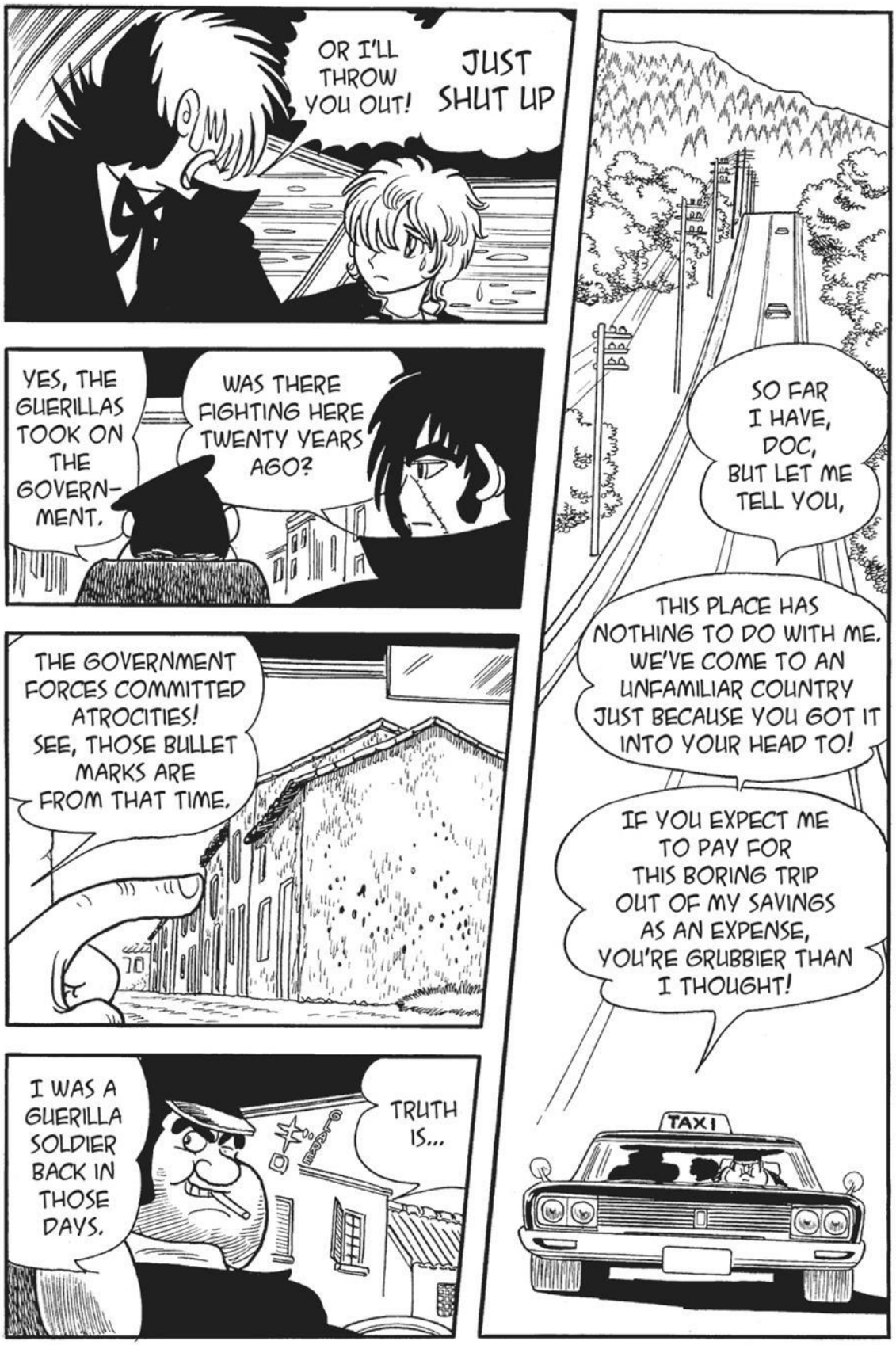

AREN'T YOU TWENTY-ONE YEARS OLD? BEAR WITH ME A LITTLE.
I'M GOING HOME!

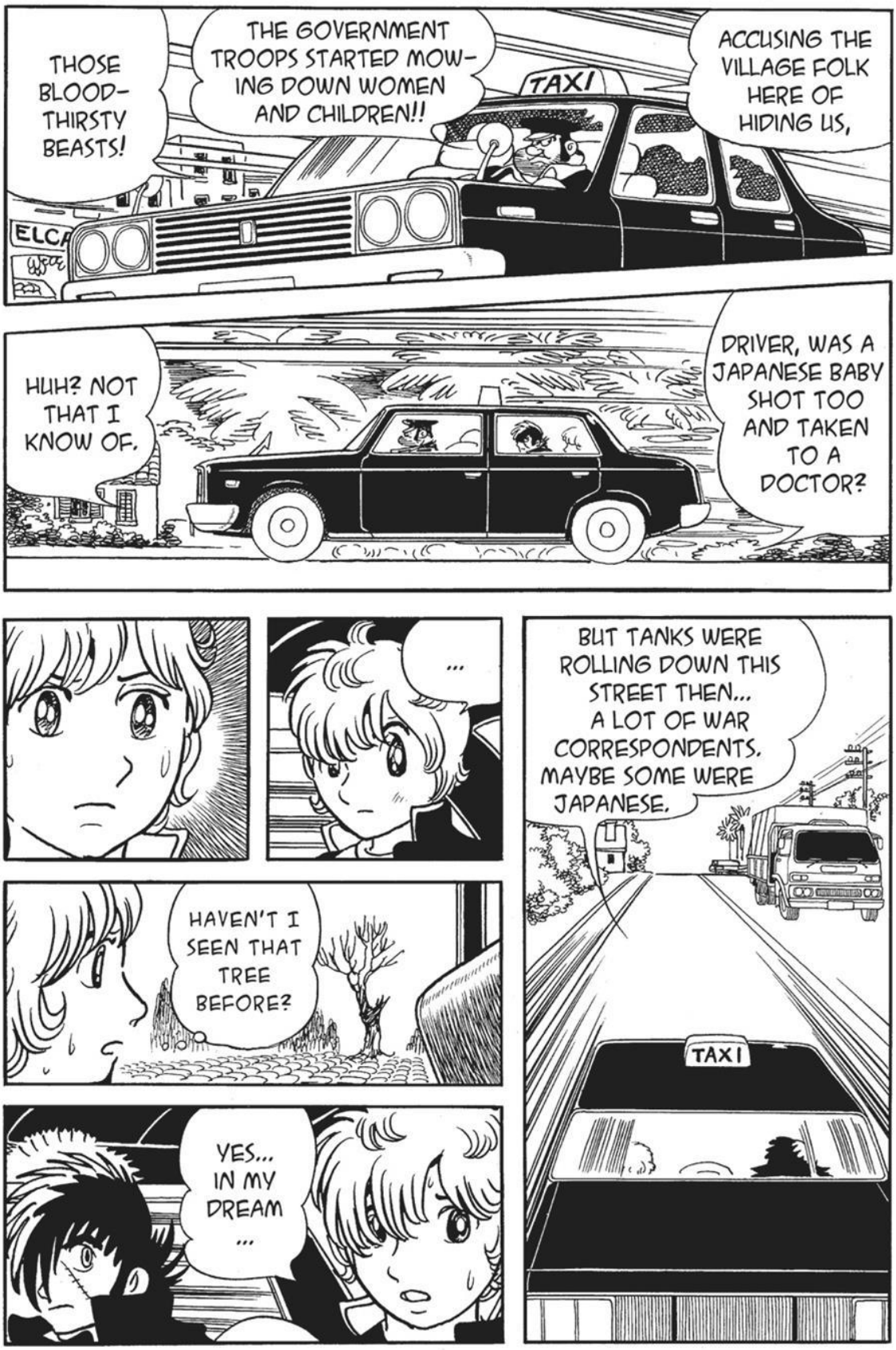

"7-11"?
NOPE
NO 7-11'S EVEN?

SHE'S RIGHT.
I'VE HAD ENOUGH OF HUMORING YOU, TOO.

BUT IT SOUNDS SHO NOT FUN!

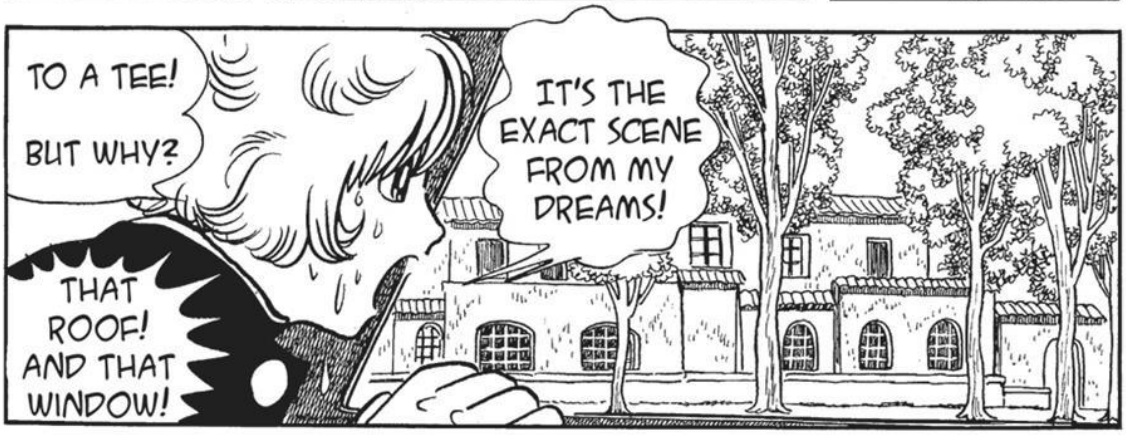
I'M ABOUT TO CATCH THE TAIL OF A MAN I MUST MEET!


JUST SHUT UP
OR I'LL THROW YOU OUT!
WAS THERE FIGHTING HERE TWENTY YEARS AGO?
YES, THE GUERILLAS TOOK ON THE GOVERN-MENT.
THE GOVERNMENT FORCES COMMITTED ATROCITIES! SEE, THOSE BULLET MARKS ARE FROM THAT TIME.
TRUTH IS...
I WAS A GUERILLA SOLDIER BACK IN THOSE DAYS.
SO FAR I HAVE, DOC, BUT LET ME TELL YOU,
THIS PLACE HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH ME. WE'VE COME TO AN UNFAMILIAR COUNTRY JUST BECAUSE YOU GOT IT INTO YOUR HEAD TO!
IF YOU EXPECT ME TO PAY FOR THIS BORING TRIP OUT OF MY SAVINGS AS AN EXPENSE, YOU'RE GRUBBIER THAN I THOUGHT!
TAXI


THOSE BLOOD-THIRSTY BEASTS!
THE GOVERNMENT TROOPS STARTED MOWING DOWN WOMEN AND CHILDREN!!
TAXI
ACCUSING THE VILLAGE FOLK HERE OF HIDING US,
HUH? NOT THAT I KNOW OF.
DRIVER, WAS A JAPANESE BABY SHOT TOO AND TAKEN TO A DOCTOR?
...
HAVEN'T I SEEN THAT TREE BEFORE?
YES... IN MY DREAM ...
BUT TANKS WERE ROLLING DOWN THIS STREET THEN... A LOT OF WAR CORRESPONDENTS. MAYBE SOME WERE JAPANESE.
TAXI

THE PATH!

ANYTHING RING A BELL?
UHH, NO...


TO A TEE!
BUT WHY?
IT'S THE EXACT SCENE FROM MY DREAMS!
THAT ROOF! AND THAT WINDOW!

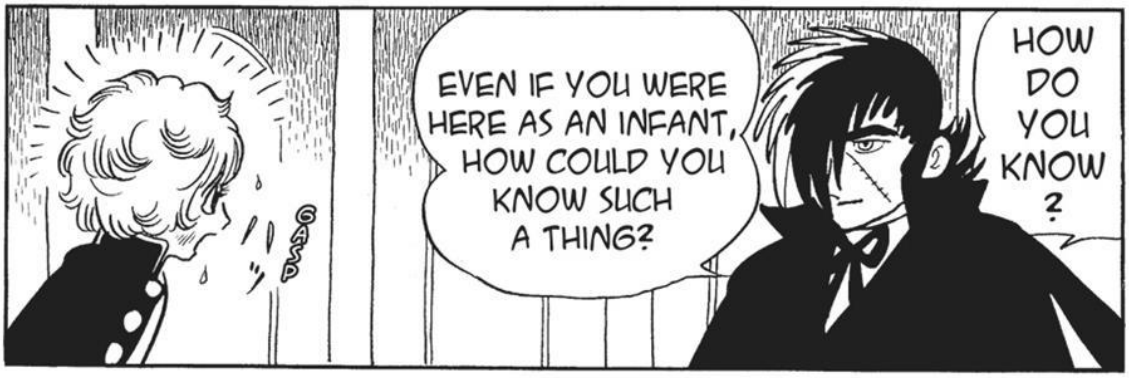
THERE IT IS!

JUST LET US OFF.
OKAY, STOP HERE.
HUH? WE'RE NOT IN SAN MERIDA YET.

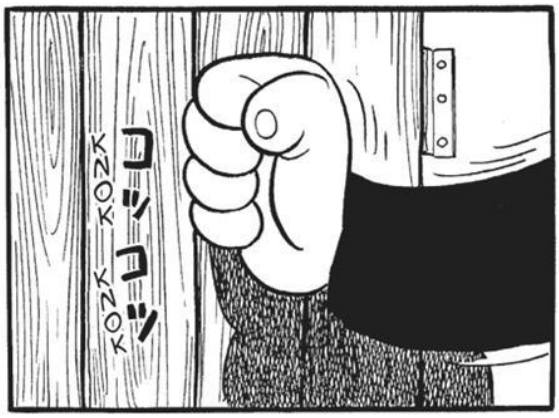
THERE SHOULD BE A CHURCH AROUND THE CORNER.

YES! THE CEILING THERE CAME DOWN... SEE, JUST THAT PART IS NEW.
ARE YOU SURE ABOUT THAT?

I'VE NEVER BEEN HERE, BUT IT MEANS A TON TO ME!
THIS IS THE PLACE! I RE-MEMBER CLEARLY!


EVEN IF YOU WERE HERE AS AN INFANT, HOW COULD YOU KNOW SUCH A THING?
HOW DO YOU KNOW ?

WHO ARE YOU REALLY?


コツ コツ
KNOCK KNOCK

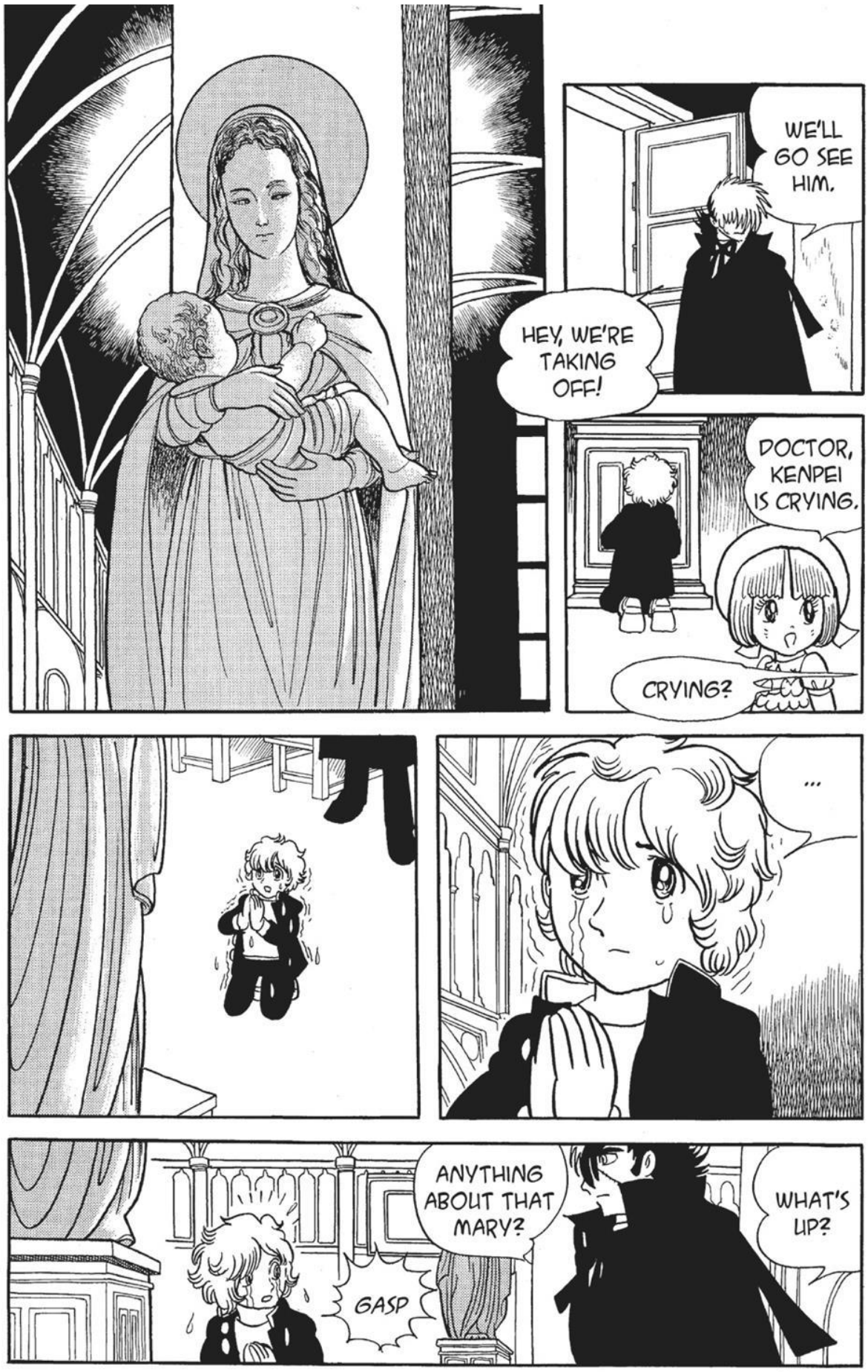
T-TWENTY YEARS?

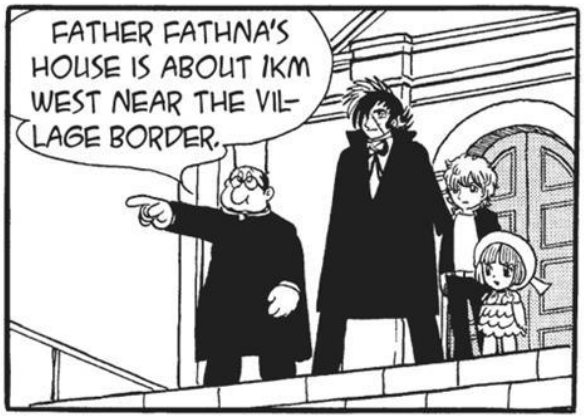
WERE YOU HERE TWENTY YEARS AGO?
HELLO, PADRE.
HOW MAY I HELP YOU?

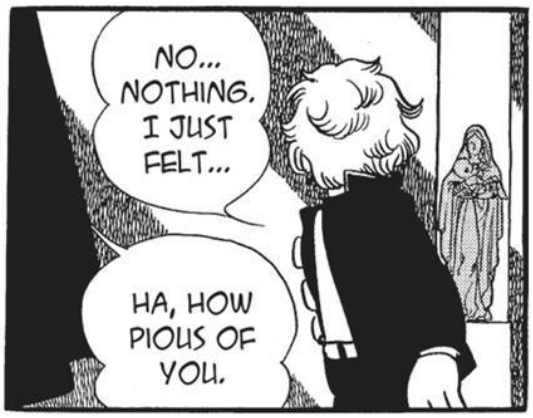
DID THIS VILLAGE HAVE A SURGEON? ONE OF RARE SKILL?
BACK THEN ...

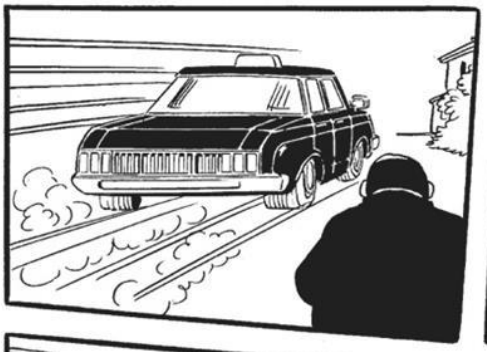
BEFORE YOU?
THE FATHER WHO SERVED HERE BEFORE ME MAY KNOW.
YES, FATHER FATHNA. HE IS A RETIREE NOW.

10 YEARS AGO. I DO NOT KNOW.
I CAME HERE


WE'LL GO SEE HIM.
HEY, WE'RE TAKING OFF!
DOCTOR, KENPEI IS CRYING.
CRYING?
...
ANYTHING ABOUT THAT MARY?
GASP
WHAT'S UP?


FATHER FATHNA'S HOUSE IS ABOUT 1KM WEST NEAR THE VILLAGE BORDER.


NO... NOTHING. I JUST FELT...
HA, HOW PIOUS OF YOU.

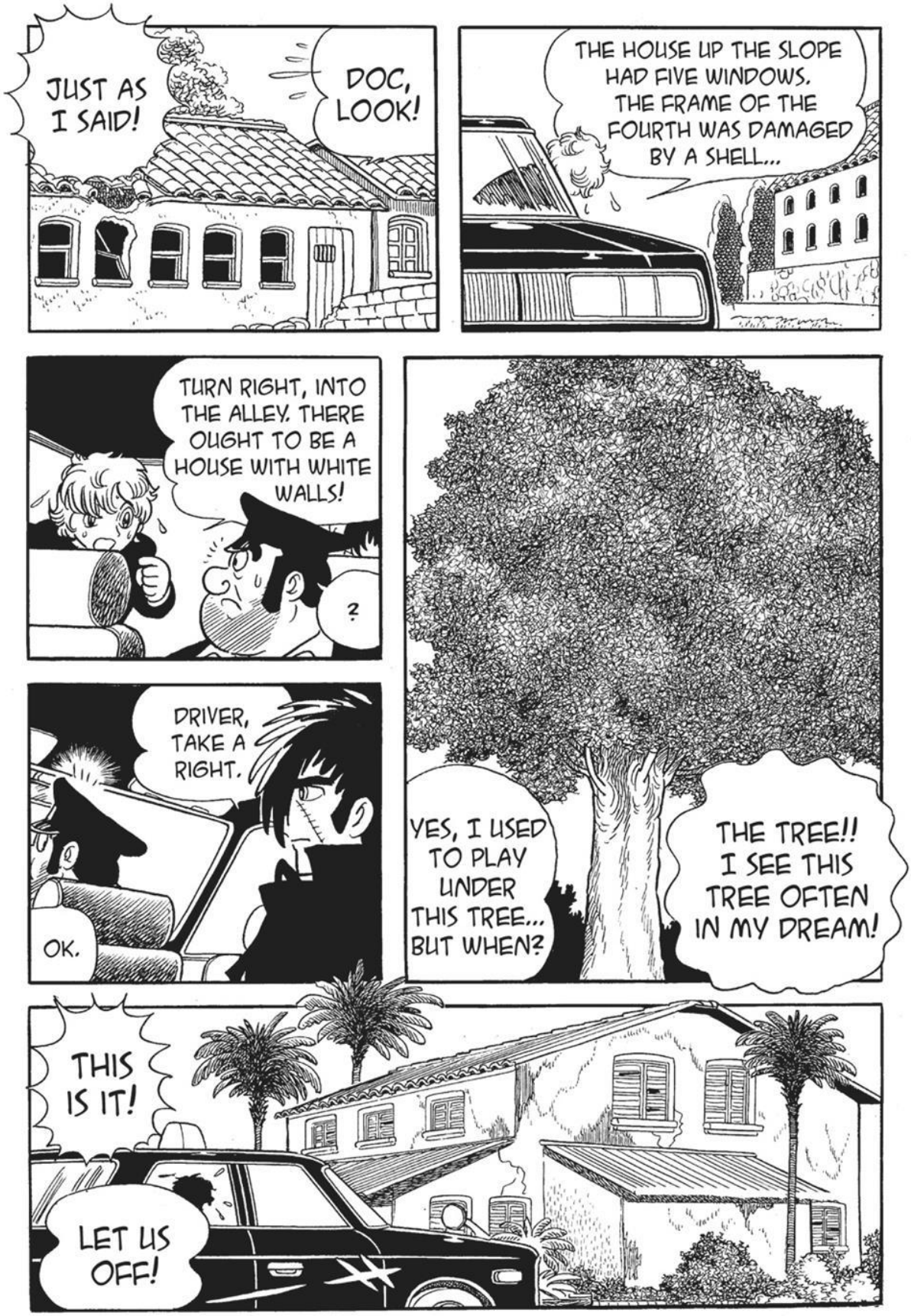


HE'S A SOLITARY MAN...
BUT I TRUST HE'LL WELCOME A GUEST FROM JAPAN.
THANK YOU.

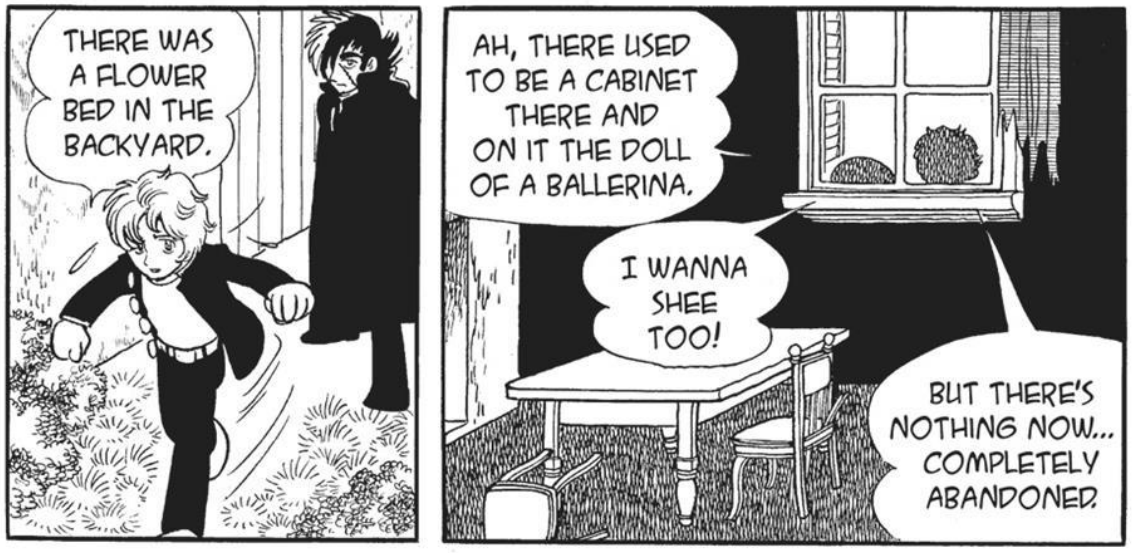
AT LAST WE NEAR THE HEART OF THE MYSTERY.

OH, OH! STOP, PLEASE!
AGAIN?

HE IS OUR KEY.

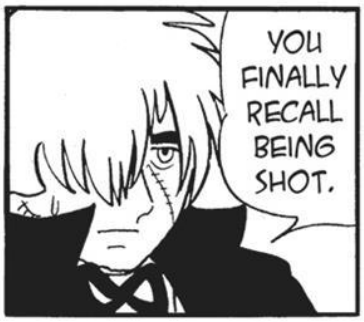

JUST AS I SAID!
DOC, LOOK!
THE HOUSE UP THE SLOPE HAD FIVE WINDOWS. THE FRAME OF THE FOURTH WAS DAMAGED BY A SHELL...
TURN RIGHT, INTO THE ALLEY. THERE OUGHT TO BE A HOUSE WITH WHITE WALLS!
?
DRIVER, TAKE A RIGHT.
OK.
YES, I USED TO PLAY UNDER THIS TREE... BUT WHEN?
THE TREE!! I SEE THIS TREE OFTEN IN MY DREAM!
THIS IS IT!
LET US OFF!

BAM
BAM
STILL HERE!
BAM
THIS IS WHERE I USED TO LIVE!
SO NO ONE LIVES HERE NOW...
A GUY WHO NEVER LEFT JAPAN LIVED IN A RURAL HOUSE IN CENTRAL AMERICA ?
DON'T ASK ME WHY... BUT I DID, A VERY LONG TIME AGO. YES! TWENTY YEARS AGO.

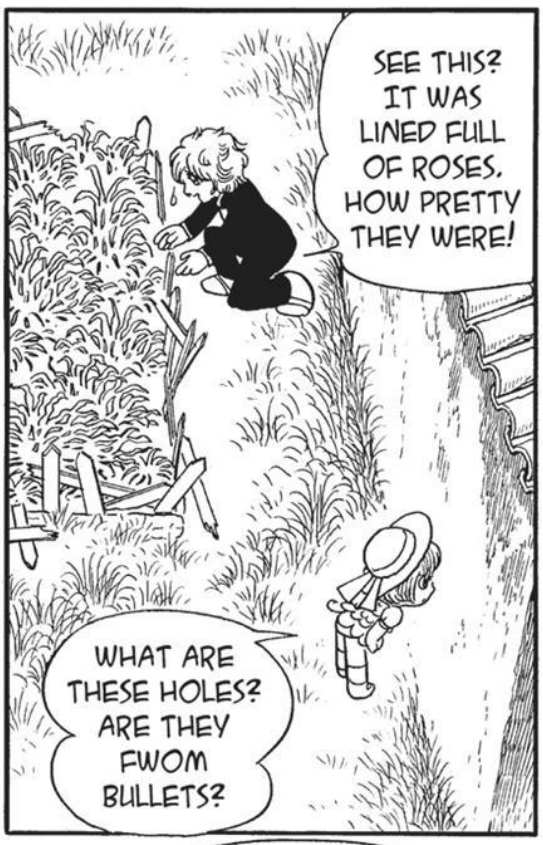

THERE WAS A FLOWER BED IN THE BACKYARD.
AH, THERE USED TO BE A CABINET THERE AND ON IT THE DOLL OF A BALLERINA.
I WANNA SHEE TOO!
BUT THERE'S NOTHING NOW... COMPLETELY ABANDONED.

YES, THEY ARE ...

FROM BULLETS SHOT AT ME.

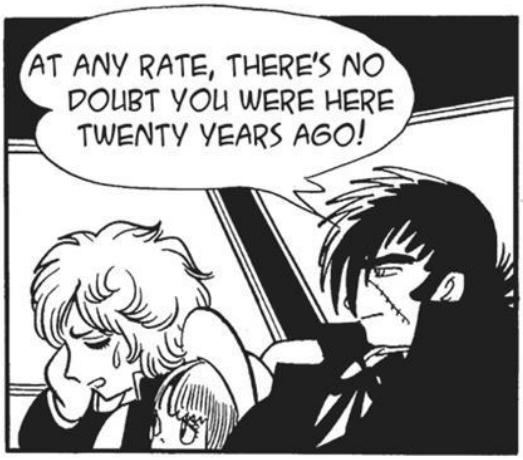

YOU FINALLY RECALL BEING SHOT.

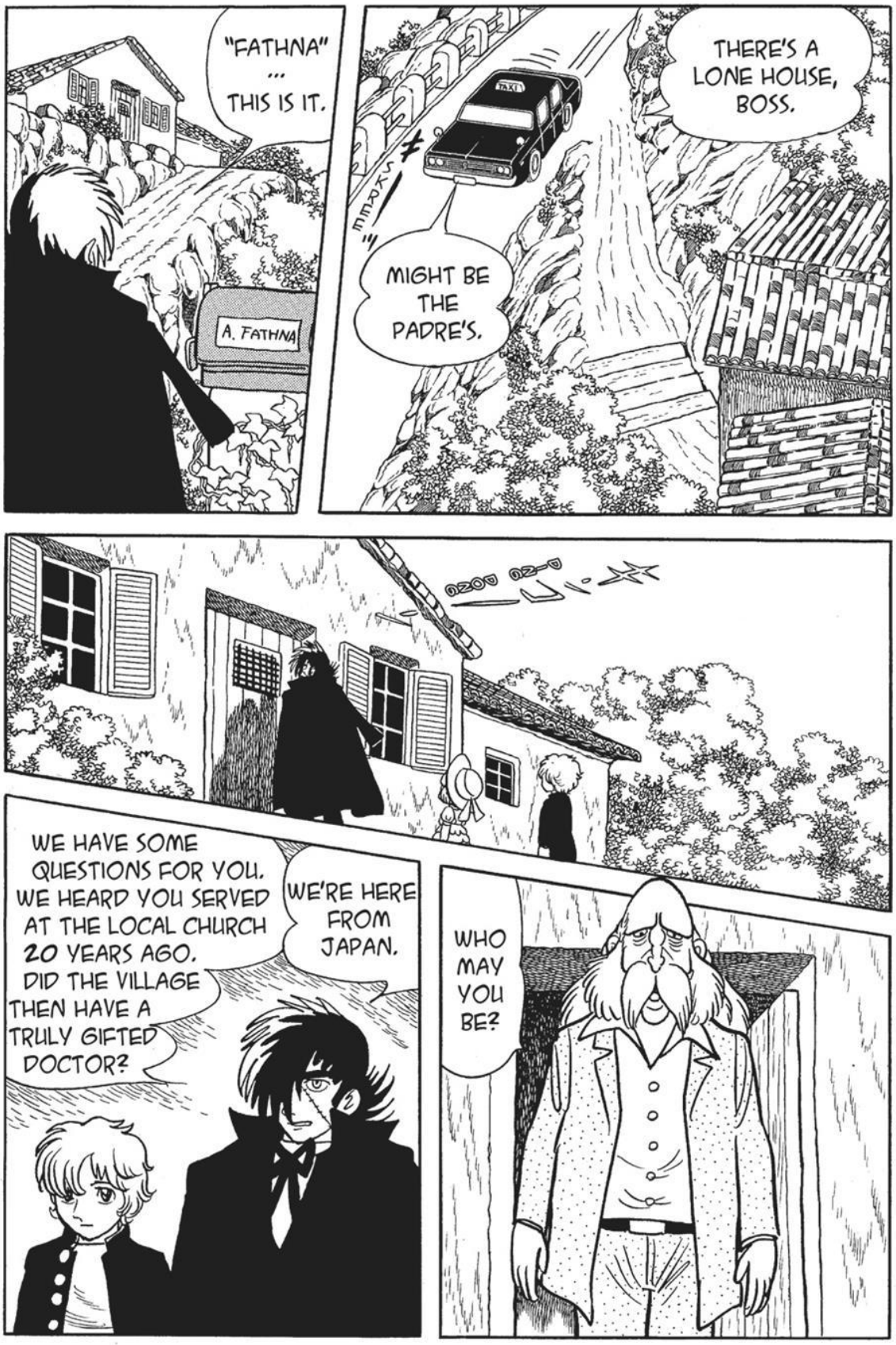
ACCHON BURIKE

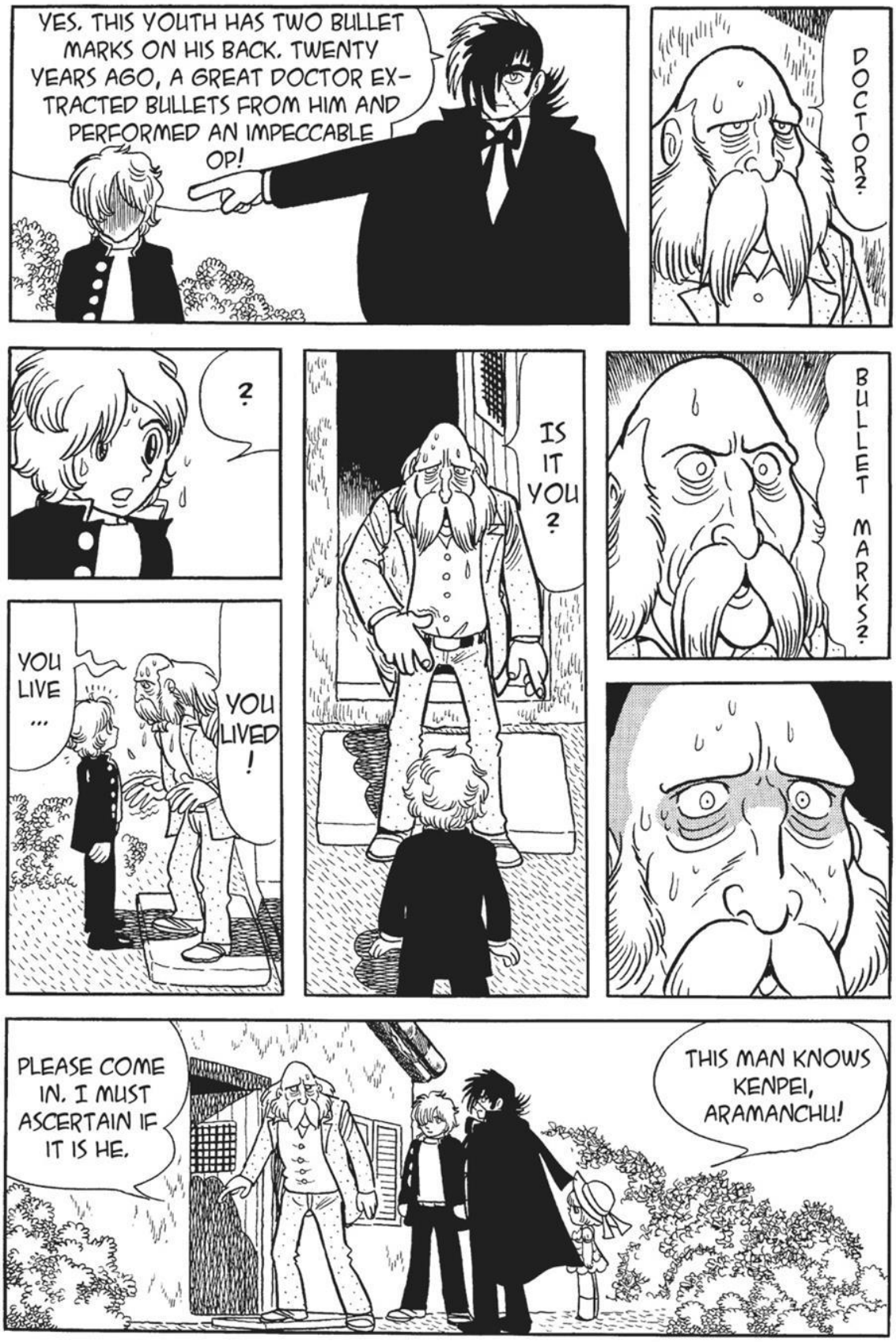

SEE THIS? IT WAS LINED FULL OF ROSES. HOW PRETTY THEY WERE!
WHAT ARE THESE HOLES? ARE THEY FWOM BULLETS?

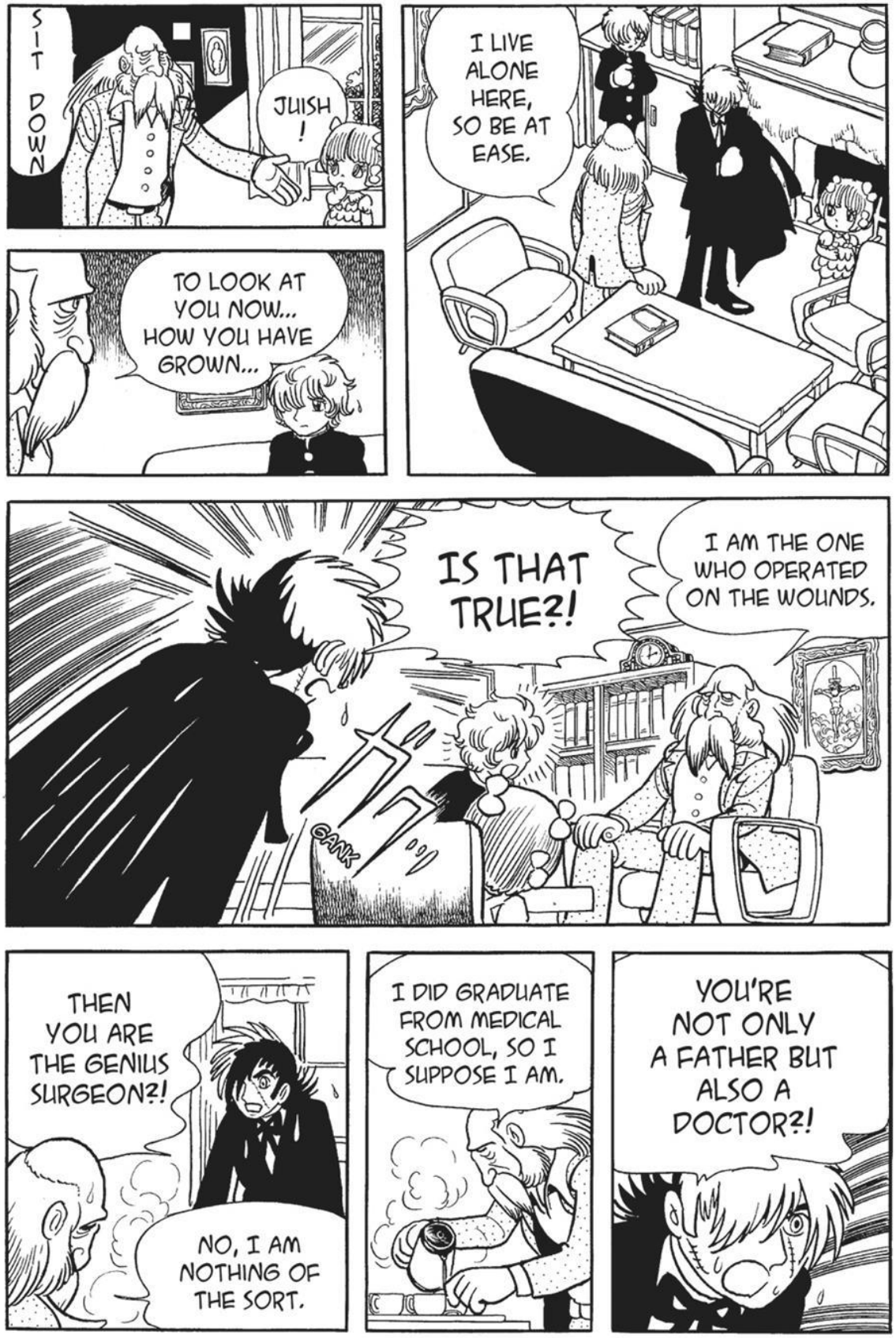
I DON'T KNOW WHAT TO THINK ANYMORE!
YOU SAY YOU GREW UP IN OITA PREFECTURE... BUT ALSO THAT ANOTHER YOU LIVED HERE!

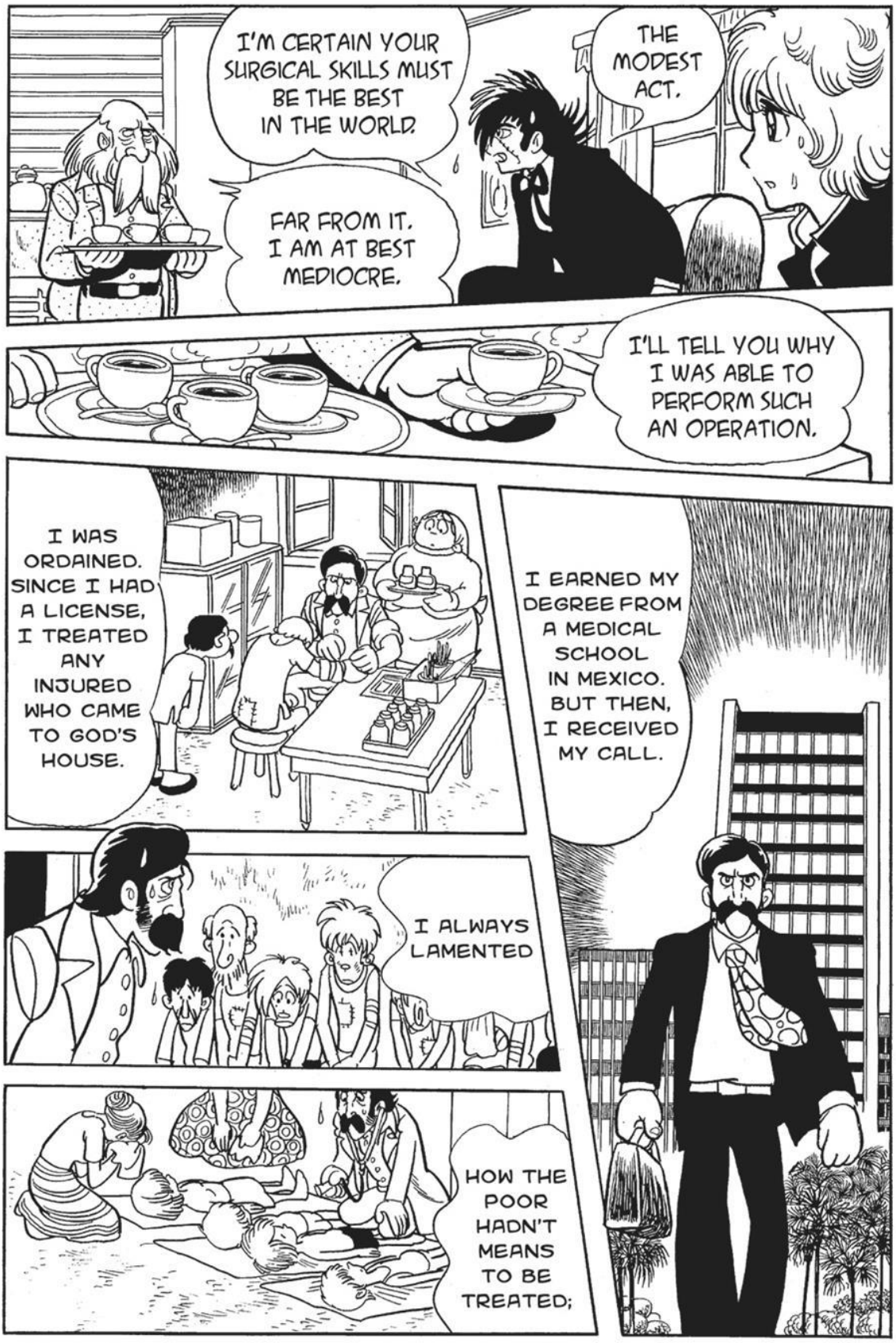
BOSS, IT'S A MOUNTAIN PATH FROM HERE ON.


AT ANY RATE, THERE'S NO DOUBT YOU WERE HERE TWENTY YEARS AGO!

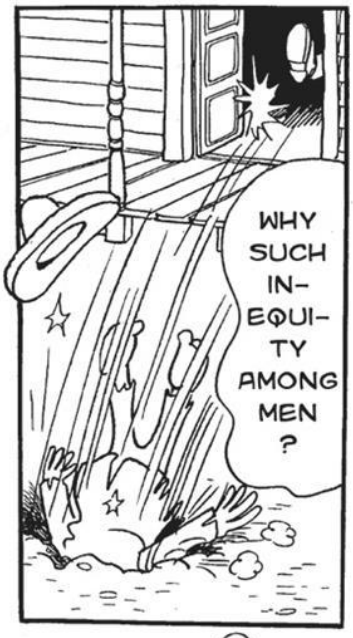

"FATHNA" ... THIS IS IT.
A. FATHNA
THERE'S A LONE HOUSE, BOSS.
TAXI
MMPKS
MIGHT BE THE PADRE'S.
WE HAVE SOME QUESTIONS FOR YOU. WE HEARD YOU SERVED AT THE LOCAL CHURCH 20 YEARS AGO. DID THE VILLAGE THEN HAVE A TRULY GIFTED DOCTOR?
WE'RE HERE FROM JAPAN.
WHO MAY YOU BE?

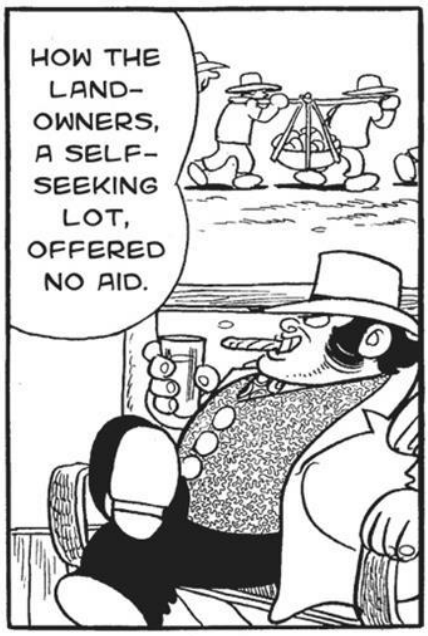

YES. THIS YOUTH HAS TWO BULLET MARKS ON HIS BACK. TWENTY YEARS AGO, A GREAT DOCTOR EXTRACTED BULLETS FROM HIM AND PERFORMED AN IMPECCABLE OP!
DOCTOR?
?
IS IT YOU ?
BULLET MARKS?
YOU LIVE ...
YOU LIVED !
PLEASE COME IN. I MUST ASCERTAIN IF IT IS HE.
THIS MAN KNOWS KENPEI, ARAMANCHU!


SIT DOWN
JUISH!
I LIVE ALONE HERE, SO BE AT EASE.
TO LOOK AT YOU NOW... HOW YOU HAVE GROWN...
IS THAT TRUE?!
I AM THE ONE WHO OPERATED ON THE WOUNDS.
GANK
THEN YOU ARE THE GENIUS SURGEON?!
NO, I AM NOTHING OF THE SORT.
I DID GRADUATE FROM MEDICAL SCHOOL, SO I SUPPOSE I AM.
YOU'RE NOT ONLY A FATHER BUT ALSO A DOCTOR?!


I'M CERTAIN YOUR SURGICAL SKILLS MUST BE THE BEST IN THE WORLD.
THE MODEST ACT.
FAR FROM IT. I AM AT BEST MEDIOCRE.
I'LL TELL YOU WHY I WAS ABLE TO PERFORM SUCH AN OPERATION.
I WAS ORDAINED. SINCE I HAD A LICENSE, I TREATED ANY INJURED WHO CAME TO GOD'S HOUSE.
I EARNED MY DEGREE FROM A MEDICAL SCHOOL IN MEXICO. BUT THEN, I RECEIVED MY CALL.
I ALWAYS LAMENTED
HOW THE POOR HADN'T MEANS TO BE TREATED;

YES, I DID GROW QUITE ANGRY ...

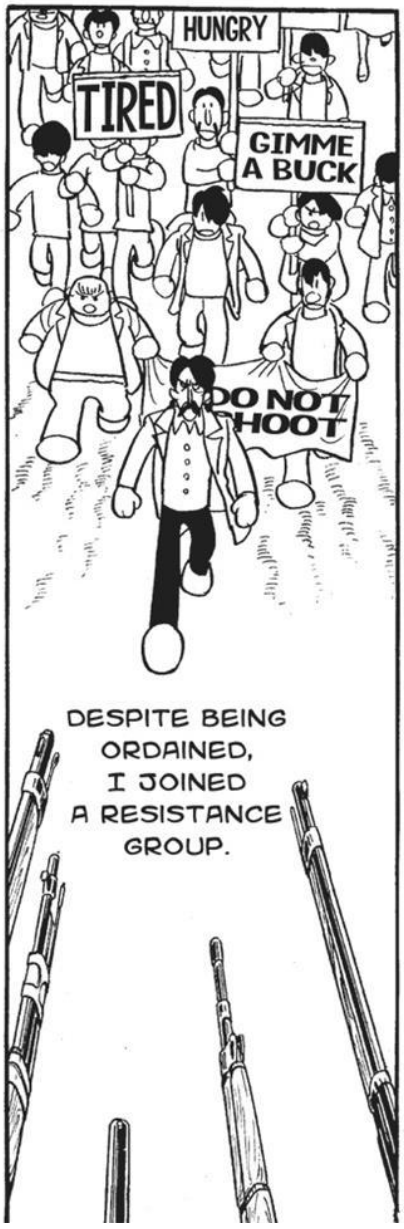

WHY SUCH IN-EQUI-TY AMONG MEN ?


HOW THE LAND-OWNERS, A SELF-SEEKING LOT, OFFERED NO AID.

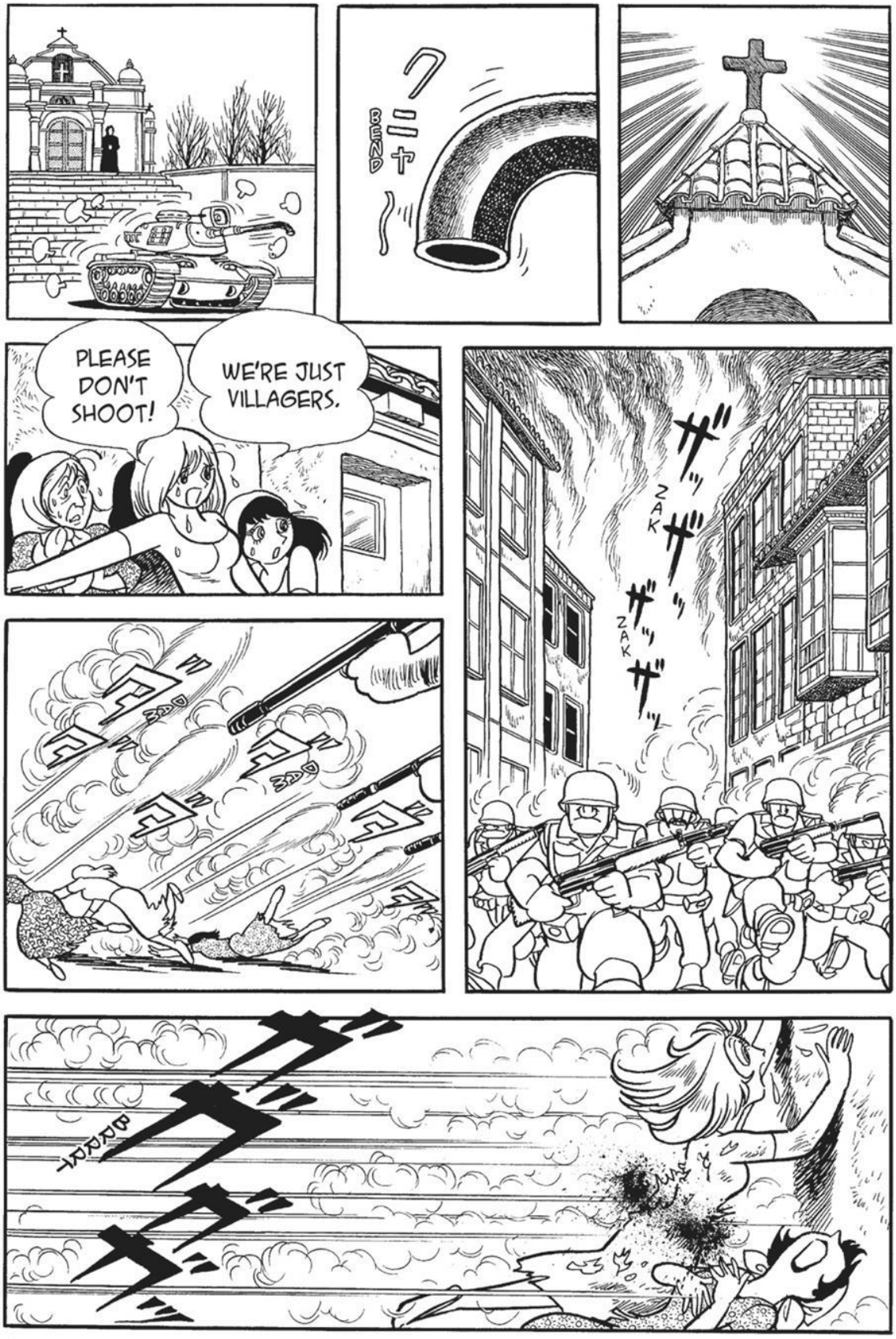
EMBARKED ON A PUNITIVE MISSION TO ERADICATE THE GROUP.

SOME OF THE BATTLES TOOK PLACE HERE.

BACKED BY THE LAND-OWNERS, THE GOV-ERNMENT FORCES


HUNGRY
TIRED
GIMME A BUCK
DO NOT SHOOT
DESPITE BEING ORDAINED, I JOINED A RESISTANCE GROUP.

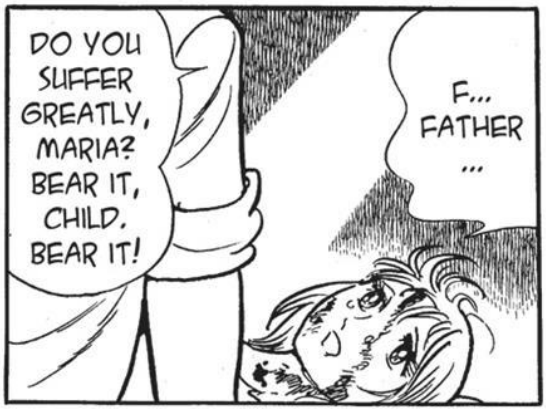
DOZENS OF WOUNDED AND VICTIMS WERE BROUGHT INTO THE CHURCH.
YOU'RE THE ONES WHO WILL LEAVE.
THIS IS GOD'S HOUSE.
FATHER! HAND THEM OVER!
GUERILLAS HAVE FLED INTO THE CHURCH!
THEN GO AHEAD. BUT FEAR THE LORD'S WRATH!
THE ARMY ORDERS IT. WE WILL FIRE, EVEN UPON A CHURCH!

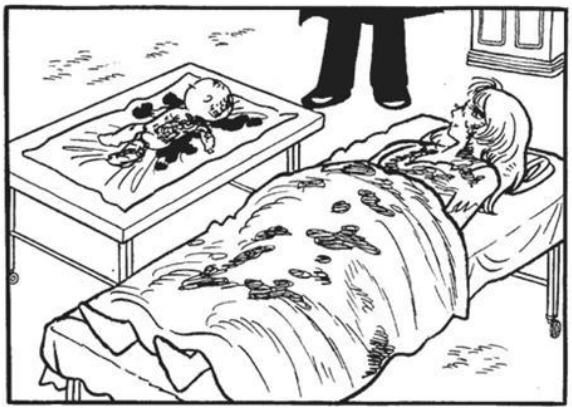

BEND
PLEASE DON'T SHOOT!
WE'RE JUST VILLAGERS.
ZAK
ZAK

ANITA...
MO... MOTHER
TH... THEY'RE DEAD.
OHH, MARIA! WHERE IS YOUR MOTHER? YOUR SISTER?
FATHER, THEY SHOT INNOCENT VILLAGERS AGAIN.
WHAT A TRAVESTY. INDEED HARD TO FORGIVE.
MARIA, I WILL TREAT YOU. DO NOT... DO NOT DIE.
IT CAN'T BE...
ONLY THE BABY HAS SURVIVED.
THE JAPANESE CORRES-PONDENT AND HIS FAMILY'S CAR TOOK A DIRECT HIT.
JAPANESE?

ONE, TWO BULLETS IN THE BACK. EVEN AN OP CAN'T HELP HIM.
ITS BODY IS IN SHREDS.

THERE IS LITTLE HOPE... ITS BRAIN IS DAMAGED.


DO YOU SUFFER GREATLY, MARIA? BEAR IT, CHILD. BEAR IT!
F... FATHER ...



HE ASKS THAT I SHARE MY BLOOD, AND MY FLESH... WITH THE BABY.
THE L-LORD HAS SPOKEN TO ME...

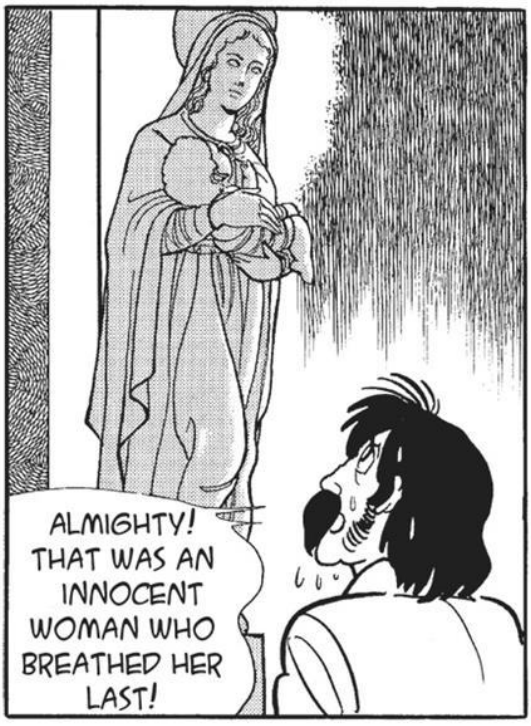
THE BABY IS BEYOND TREAT-MENT. IT IS A PITY, BUT IT CANNOT BE HELPED.
I CAN TELL... THAT H-HEAVEN IS CALLING. ATTEND TO THE B-BABY, NOT TO ME...

SUCH A DIFFICULT OPERATION WOULD BE BEYOND ME...
THOUGH A SURGEON I MAY BE

YOU MAY SAY SO, BUT...
I B-BEG YOU, FATHER!! PUT TO USE THIS BODY OF MINE... FOR THE BABY.

BECAUSE THE LORD WILL... WILL AID YOU...
IT ISN'T! YOU CAN PERFORM IT...

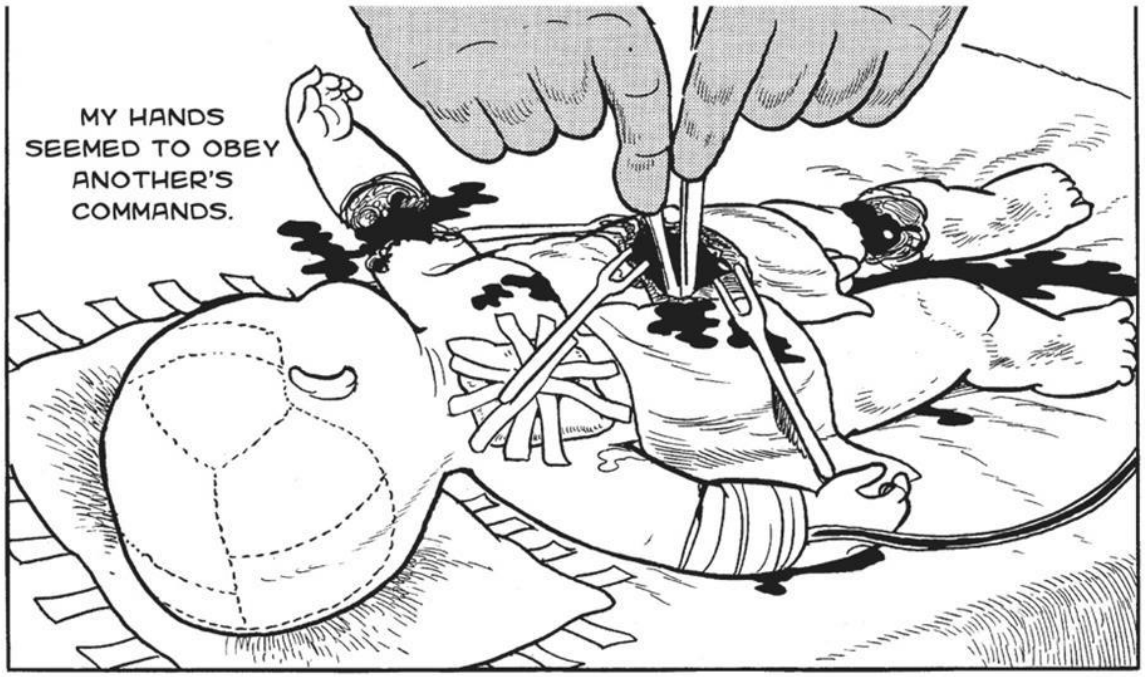
MARIA

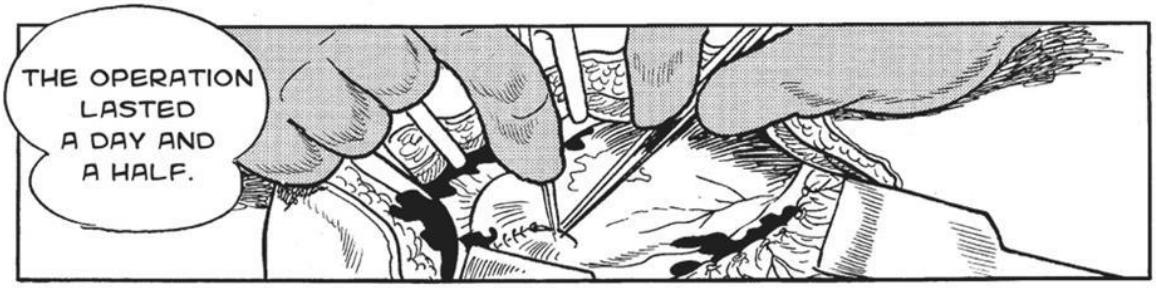

ALMIGHTY! THAT WAS AN INNOCENT WOMAN WHO BREATHED HER LAST!

MARIAA!

WHY DID YOU TAKE HER?
WHY?! YOU ARE CRUEL!
THAT INFANT IS YOURS TO SAVE.
PICK UP A SCALPEL, FATHER ...
YOU MUST
YOU ASK FOR TOO MUCH! I...I CAN'T DO THIS!
BUT I... I DO NOT HAVE THE SKILL! THAT INFANT HAS HAD ITS BODY TORN APART... ITS HEAD IS SPLIT OPEN...
FATHER, I WILL AID YOU IN THIS. FIRST, GIVE THE WOMAN'S BLOOD TO IT.

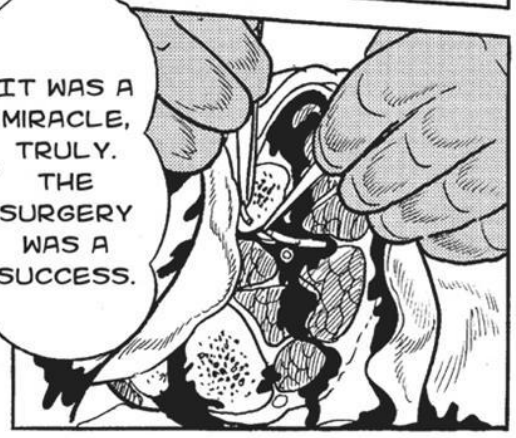
MARIA AND THE BABY BOTH HAD TYPE-B BLOOD, ALLOWING FOR TRANSFUSION.
AND THEN, A POWERFUL FORCE SUFFUSED MY HEART AND MY HANDS.
FIRST, I WORKED TO RESTORE THE BABY'S RIGHT BRAIN, WHICH WAS NEARLY GONE.
I STARTED ON A MAJOR OPERATION, WITHOUT ADEQUATE STERILIZATION, IN A DUSTY ROOM IN A CHURCH! I WAS HARDLY MYSELF THEN.
CEREBRO-SPINAL FLUID, TOO, WITH A DROPPER.
WITH THE TWO'S CEREBRAL TISSUE EXPOSED, I TRANSFERRED MARIA'S BRAIN CELLS TO THE BABY WITH A SPOON.

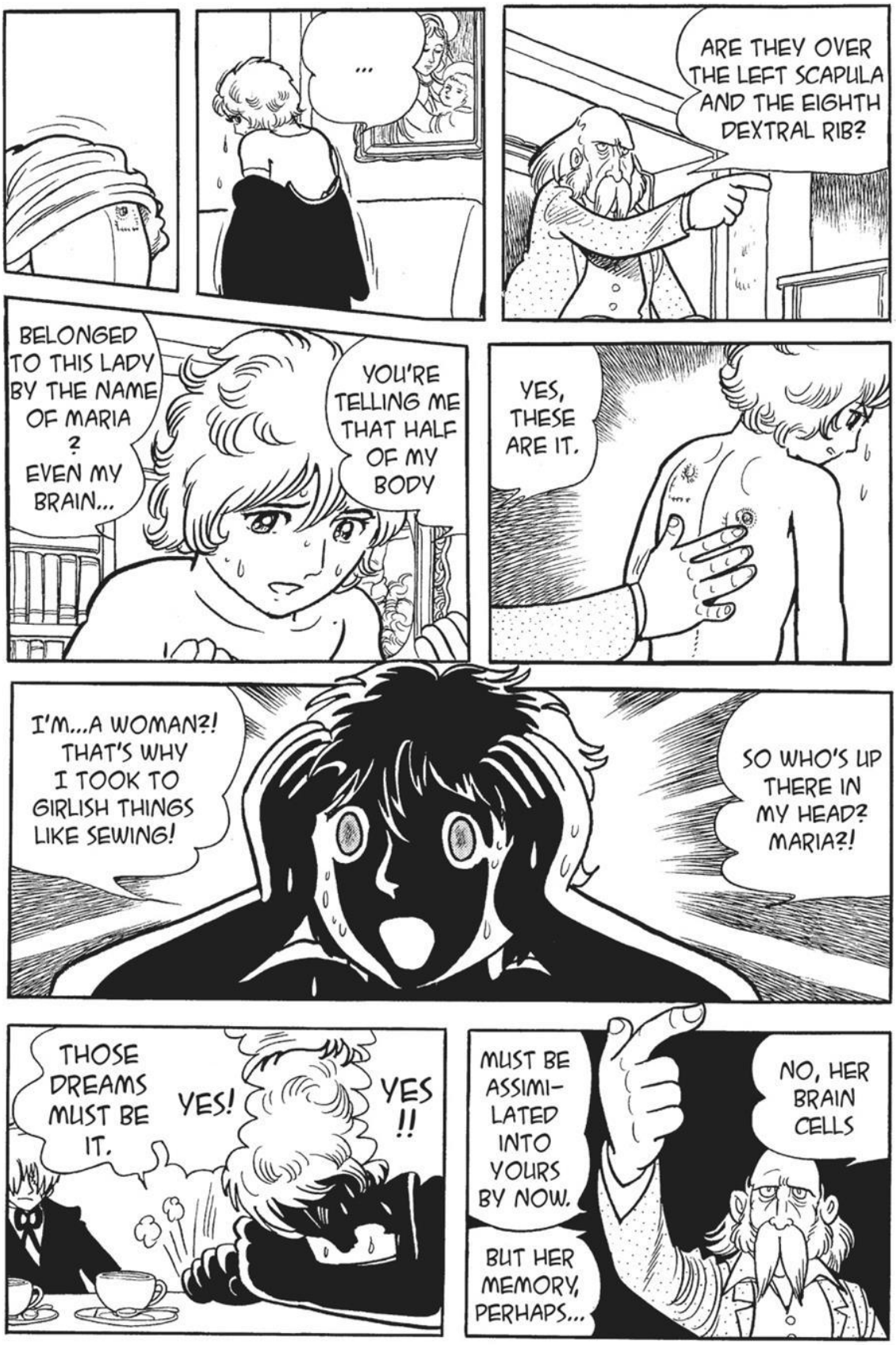

MY HANDS SEEMED TO OBEY ANOTHER'S COMMANDS.

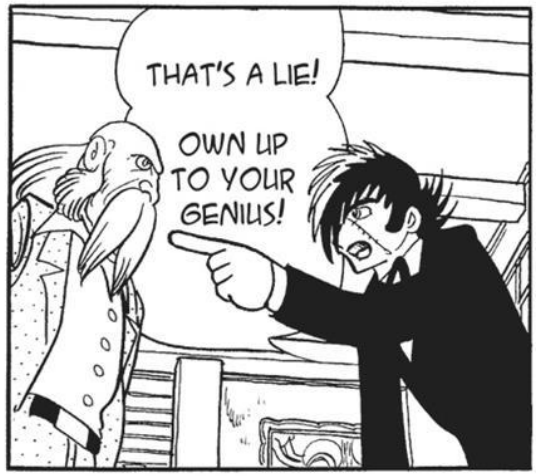

THE OPERATION LASTED A DAY AND A HALF.

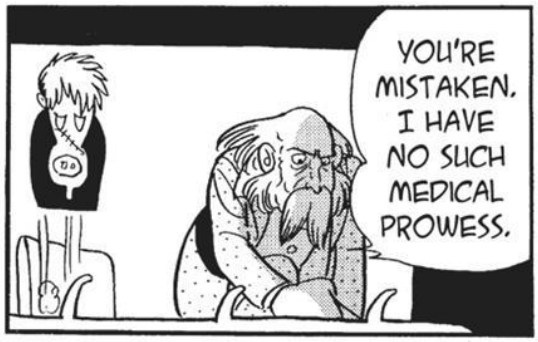
EVENTUALLY, ANOTHER REPORTER CAME AND TOOK THE BABY BACK TO JAPAN.
I HAD THOUGHT TO LEAVE THE SCARS ON ITS BACK TO MARK THE MIRACLE.

I FELT NO NEED TO SLEEP AND MY HANDS WERE SWIFT AS ARROWS. THE BABY, TOO, HELD ON.


IT WAS A MIRACLE, TRULY. THE SURGERY WAS A SUCCESS.

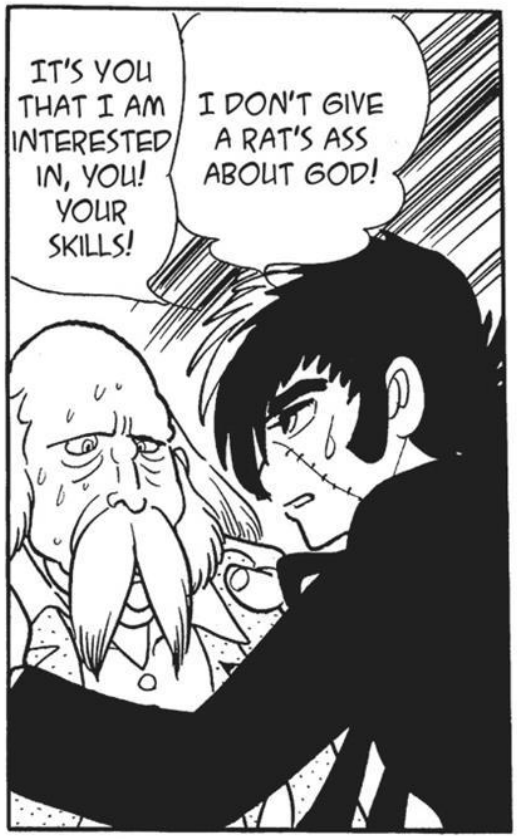

...
ARE THEY OVER THE LEFT SCAPULA AND THE EIGHTH DEXTRAL RIB?
YES, THESE ARE IT.
YOU'RE TELLING ME THAT HALF OF MY BODY
BELONGED TO THIS LADY BY THE NAME OF MARIA ? EVEN MY BRAIN...
I'M...A WOMAN?! THAT'S WHY I TOOK TO GIRLISH THINGS LIKE SEWING!
SO WHO'S UP THERE IN MY HEAD? MARIA?!
THOSE DREAMS MUST BE IT.
YES!
YES !!
NO, HER BRAIN CELLS
MUST BE ASSIMI-LATED INTO YOURS BY NOW.
BUT HER MEMORY, PERHAPS...

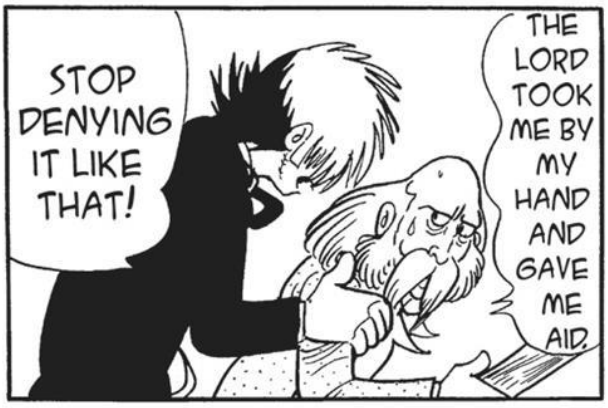

THAT'S A LIE!
OWN UP TO YOUR GENIUS!


YOU'RE MISTAKEN. I HAVE NO SUCH MEDICAL PROWESS.

MR. FATHNA, YOU SAY YOU PULLED OFF THE SURGERY WITH GOD'S ASSISTANCE.

WORRY NOT, YOUNG MAN. HER MEMORIES SHOULD FADE AND IN TIME DISAPPEAR.


IT'S YOU THAT I AM INTERESTED IN, YOU! YOUR SKILLS!
I DON'T GIVE A RAT'S ASS ABOUT GOD!


STOP DENYING IT LIKE THAT!
THE LORD TOOK ME BY MY HAND AND GAVE ME AID.

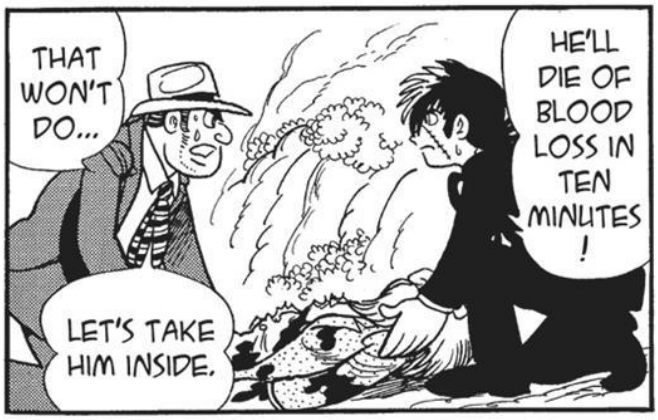
I CAME ALL THE WAY FROM JAPAN JUST TO SEE YOU AT WORK.
LOOK HERE ...

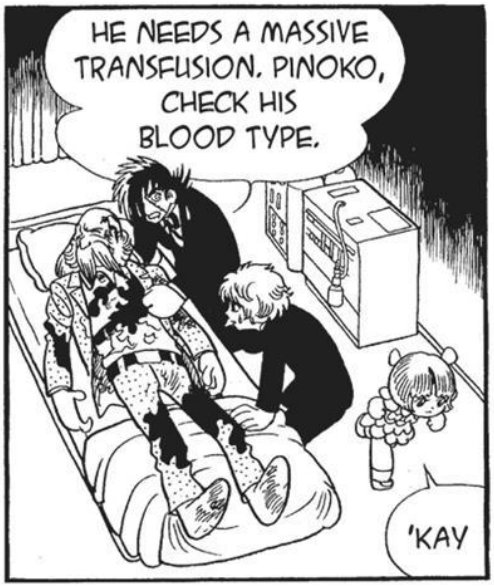
NATIONAL HOSPITAL, SO I CAN WITNESS THE SECRETS OF YOUR GENIUS.
N-NO.
COME ON, MR. FATHNA. LET'S GO, YOU AND I, TO THE...
DASH
THE POLICE ARE HERE TO ARREST ME.
WHAT FOR ?
WHAT'S THIS ABOUT?
WE'VE COME TO HAUL IN AND INVESTIGATE YOU! COME ON OUT!
FATHER FATHNA! WE HAVE A WARRANT FOR YOU. YOU'RE UNDER ARREST AS A GUERILLA!
I AM STILL WANTED BY THE AUTHORITIES AS A MEMBER OF THE RESISTANCE GROUP!
WHY DO YOU THINK I LEFT THE CHURCH, TO LIVE HERE ALONE?

WE'LL SEE ABOUT THAT.
IF YOU'RE INNOCENT, WE'LL LET YOU GO. COME DOWN!
THE MAN IS NOT A KILLER. HE ISN'T GUILTY OF ANY CRIME!
MR. FATHNA, DON'T!
RIGHT NOW.
WHAT ARE YOU DOING ?!
ズダダダダダダ

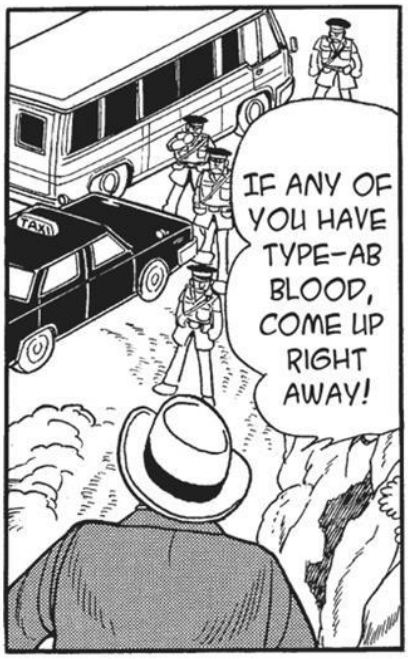
F-FOOLS! WHO SAID TO FIRE ON HIM?!
BOOM
BRATATA
WHY DID YOU FIRE ON AN UNARMED MAN?!
DAMMIT... IS HE DEAD?
HOW IS HE?
HE HAS A PULSE.
I GAVE NO SUCH ORDER! MY MEN MADE A MISTAKE.
THEY'RE YOUR RESPONSI-BILITY!

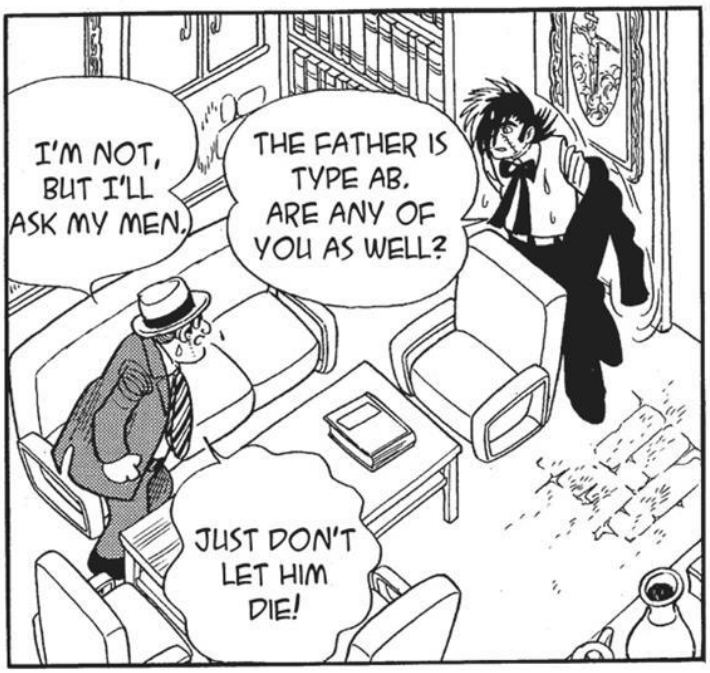
KENPEI, GIVE US A HAND!

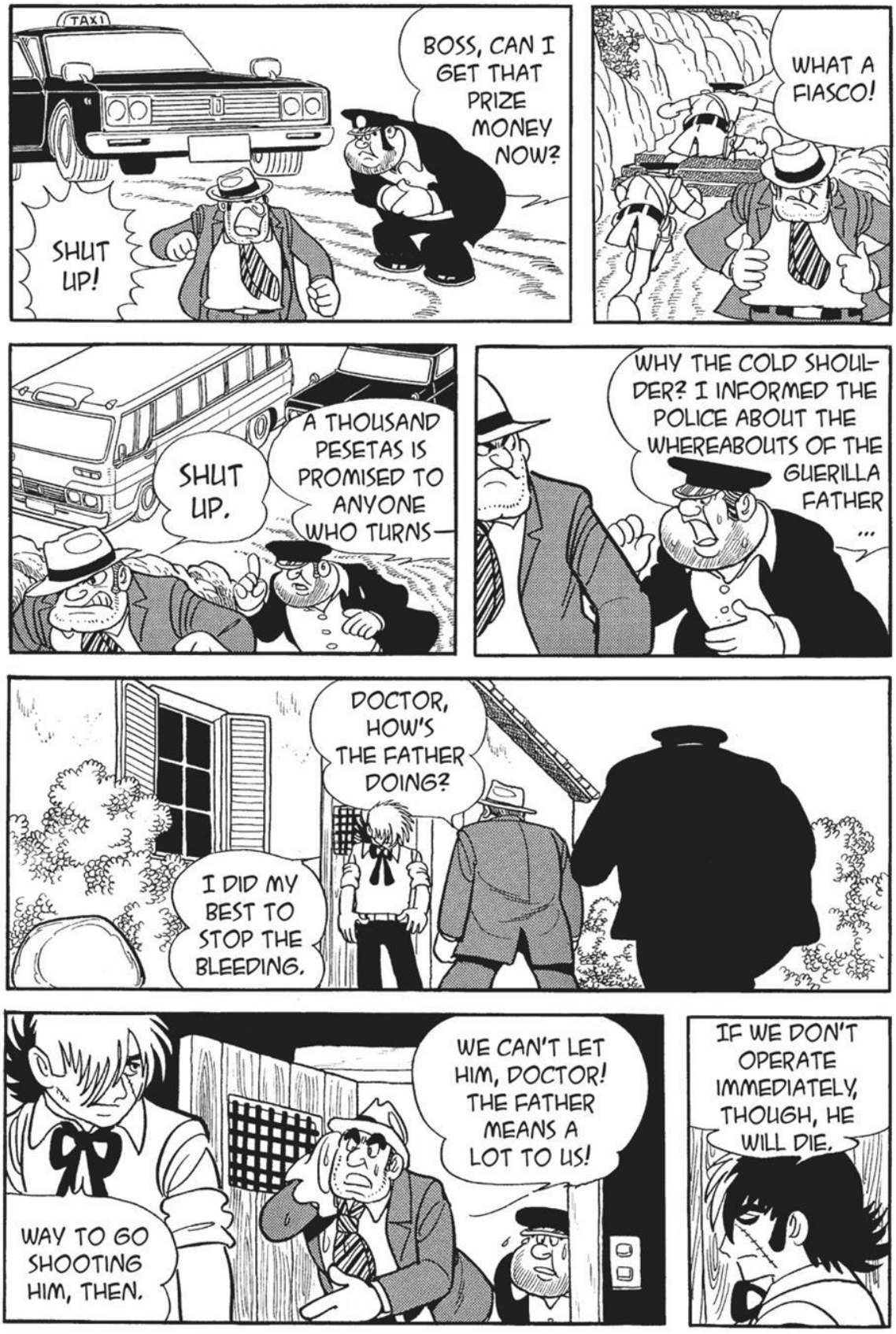

THAT WON'T DO...
HE'LL DIE OF BLOOD LOSS IN TEN MINUTES!
LET'S TAKE HIM INSIDE.


HE NEEDS A MASSIVE TRANSFUSION. PINOKO, CHECK HIS BLOOD TYPE.
'KAY

GENTLY NOW...


IF ANY OF YOU HAVE TYPE-AB BLOOD, COME UP RIGHT AWAY!


I'M NOT, BUT I'LL ASK MY MEN.
THE FATHER IS TYPE AB. ARE ANY OF YOU AS WELL?
JUST DON'T LET HIM DIE!

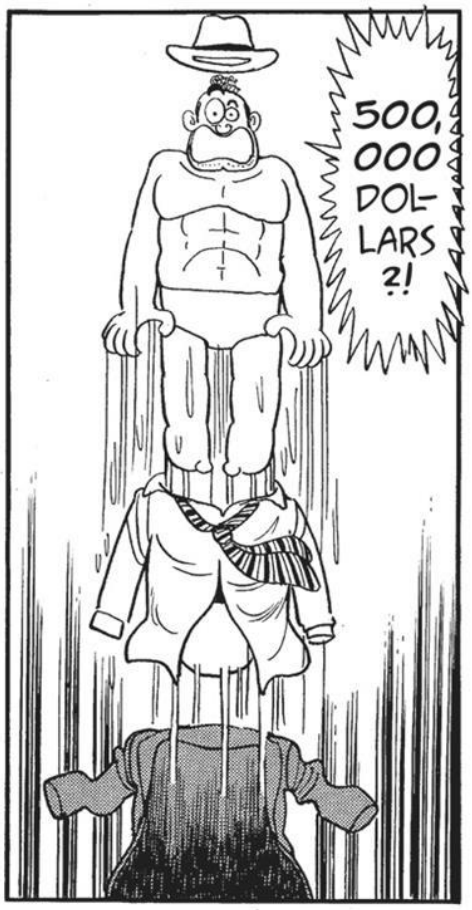

TAXI
BOSS, CAN I GET THAT PRIZE MONEY NOW?
SHUT UP!
WHAT A FIASCO!
SHUT UP.
A THOUSAND PESETAS IS PROMISED TO ANYONE WHO TURNS—
WHY THE COLD SHOULDER? I INFORMED THE POLICE ABOUT THE WHEREABOUTS OF THE GUERILLA FATHER ...
DOCTOR, HOW'S THE FATHER DOING?
I DID MY BEST TO STOP THE BLEEDING.
WE CAN'T LET HIM, DOCTOR! THE FATHER MEANS A LOT TO US!
WAY TO GO SHOOTING HIM, THEN.
IF WE DON'T OPERATE IMMEDIATELY, THOUGH, HE WILL DIE.

THAT'S WHY WE NEEDED TO ARREST HIM. IF HE DIES, THE INFO'S LOST.

NO... THAT'S NOT WHAT I MEAN!
SO WHAT ?
FATHER FATHNA KNOWS THE NAMES OF THE GUERILLA GROUP'S LEADERS!

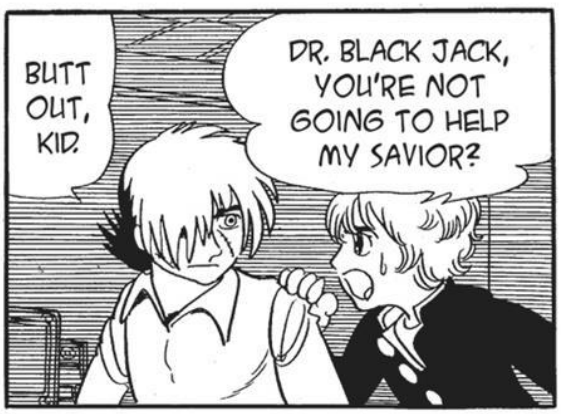
WHAT MIGHT THEY BE?

WHAT DOES ANY OF THAT HAVE TO DO WITH ME? IF YOU WANT ME TO OPERATE, I HAVE MY TERMS.


500,000 DOL-LARS ?!

YOU'LL PAY 500,000 DOLLARS FOR THE OPERATION. TAKE IT OR LEAVE IT.

AND I WANT IT IN CASH PRONTO.
WE POLICE CAN'T PAY SUCH A SUM!
THAT'S WAY TOO MUCH!!
ISN'T YOUR NATION'S GOVERNMENT BACKED BY BILLIONAIRE OWNERS OF LARGE ESTATES? FOR THEM, $500,000 IS PETTY CASH.
WE'RE RICH?
IT CAN'T BE DONE. YOU THINK
PETTY CASH ?!
GET THE COMMISSIONER TO CONTACT A HIGH OFFICIAL
AND PREPARE THE MONEY.
ABSURD
YOU'RE TAKING ADVAN-TAGE OF US!
AH, SO YOU WANT ME NOT TO?
PINOKO, PACK UP.


BUTT OUT, KID.
DR. BLACK JACK, YOU'RE NOT GOING TO HELP MY SAVIOR?

ARE WE LEAVING? HE'SH DYING.
TOO BAD THEY DON'T
PAY FEES TO DOCTORS HEREABOUTS.

HOW DARE YOU CALL YOURSELF A DOCTOR, YOU STINGY SELFISH QUACK!

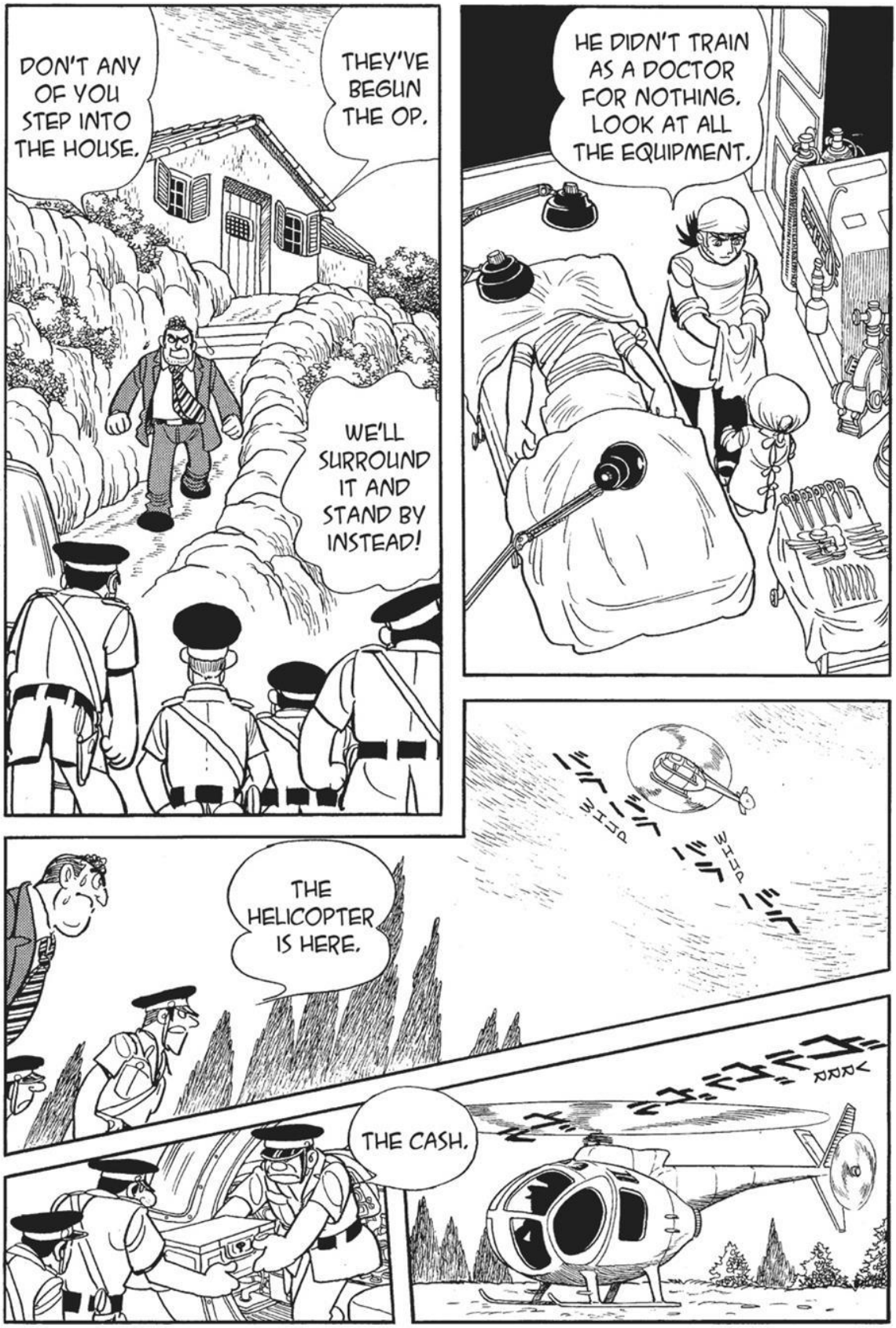
YES, SIR, $500,000... IT'S AN ABSURD AMOUNT, BUT OTHERWISE HE'LL PACK UP.

THAT IS SO, COMMISSIONER. HE'S IN CRITICAL CONDITION. IF WE DON'T OPERATE RIGHT AWAY, WE'LL NEVER GET THE NAMES OUT OF HIM. IT WILL BE A HUGE LOSS!

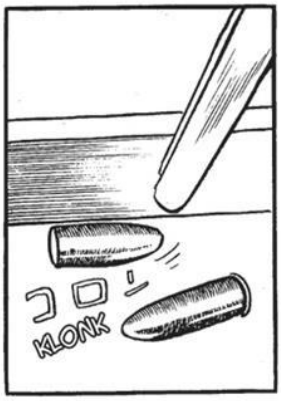
WHAT ABOUT MY THOUSAND PESETAS?
UM

SHUT YOUR TRAP!

DOCTOR, PLEASE DON'T GO.
THE COMMISH HAS SAID YES!
WHY DID I INFORM ON HIM? LIAR!
DAMN IT TO HELL!
I HAVE OTHER TERMS, TOO.
THEY'LL BRING IT IN A MILITARY CHOPPER.
MOREOVER, NO VISITORS WILL BE ALLOWED FOR A GOOD WHILE, NO MATTER HOW HIGHLY RANKED.
I WILL TREAT THIS PATIENT ALONE. NO OTHER DOCTORS WILL BE NEEDED!
YOUR WOBE.
PINOKO, WE'RE ON!
HE ACCEPTS THOSE TERMS AS WELL.


DON'T ANY OF YOU STEP INTO THE HOUSE.
THEY'VE BEGUN THE OP.
WE'LL SURROUND IT AND STAND BY INSTEAD!
HE DIDN'T TRAIN AS A DOCTOR FOR NOTHING. LOOK AT ALL THE EQUIPMENT.
THE HELICOPTER IS HERE.
THE CASH.

WHATTA LONG OP.
YUP
ALL RIGHT? WE'VE PAID NOW. TELL HIM TO SAVE THE MAN AND THAT WE WON'T TOLERATE FAILURE.
THAT DOCTOR, WHAT SORT OF MAN IS HE?!
500,000 DOLLARS. PLEASE CHECK.
ANESTHESIA, LOCAL, UPPER ARM AND CHEST.
IT'S TOO DARK.
CAN'T WE GET MORE LIGHT IN HERE?
PINCERS

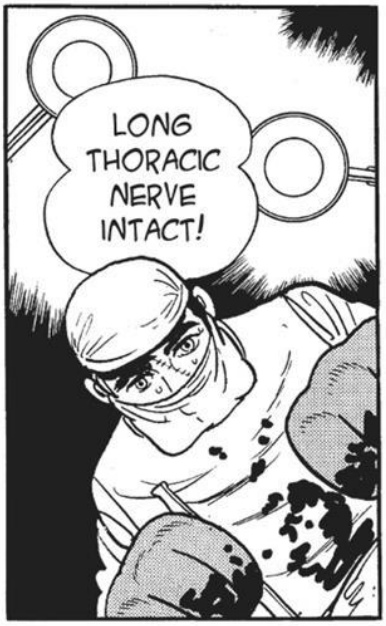

コロ
KLONK

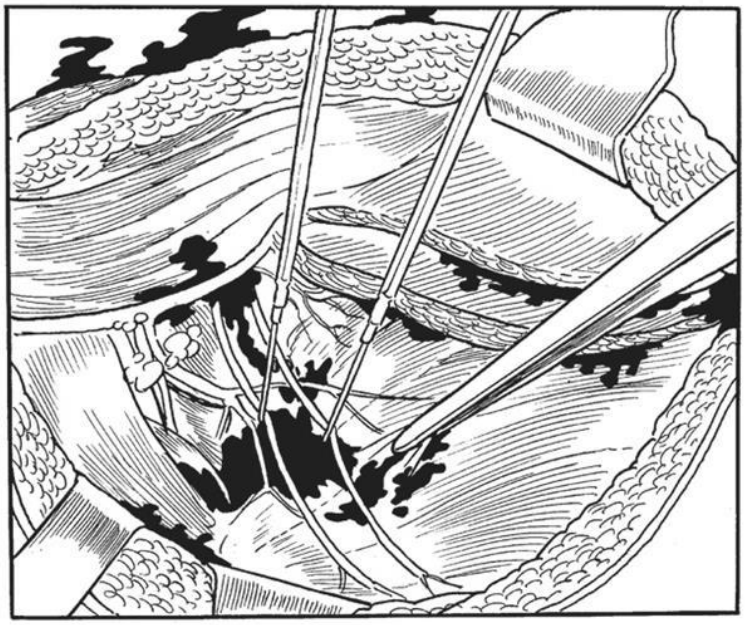
CARDIA AND VAGUS TORN...

HERE'S TO HOPING I CAN DO WHAT HE DID FOR KENPEI...

I CAME ALL THE WAY TO WATCH THIS MAN AT WORK
YET NOW I'M OPERATING ON HIM. THERE'S IRONY FOR YOU.

カタン


LONG THORACIC NERVE INTACT!



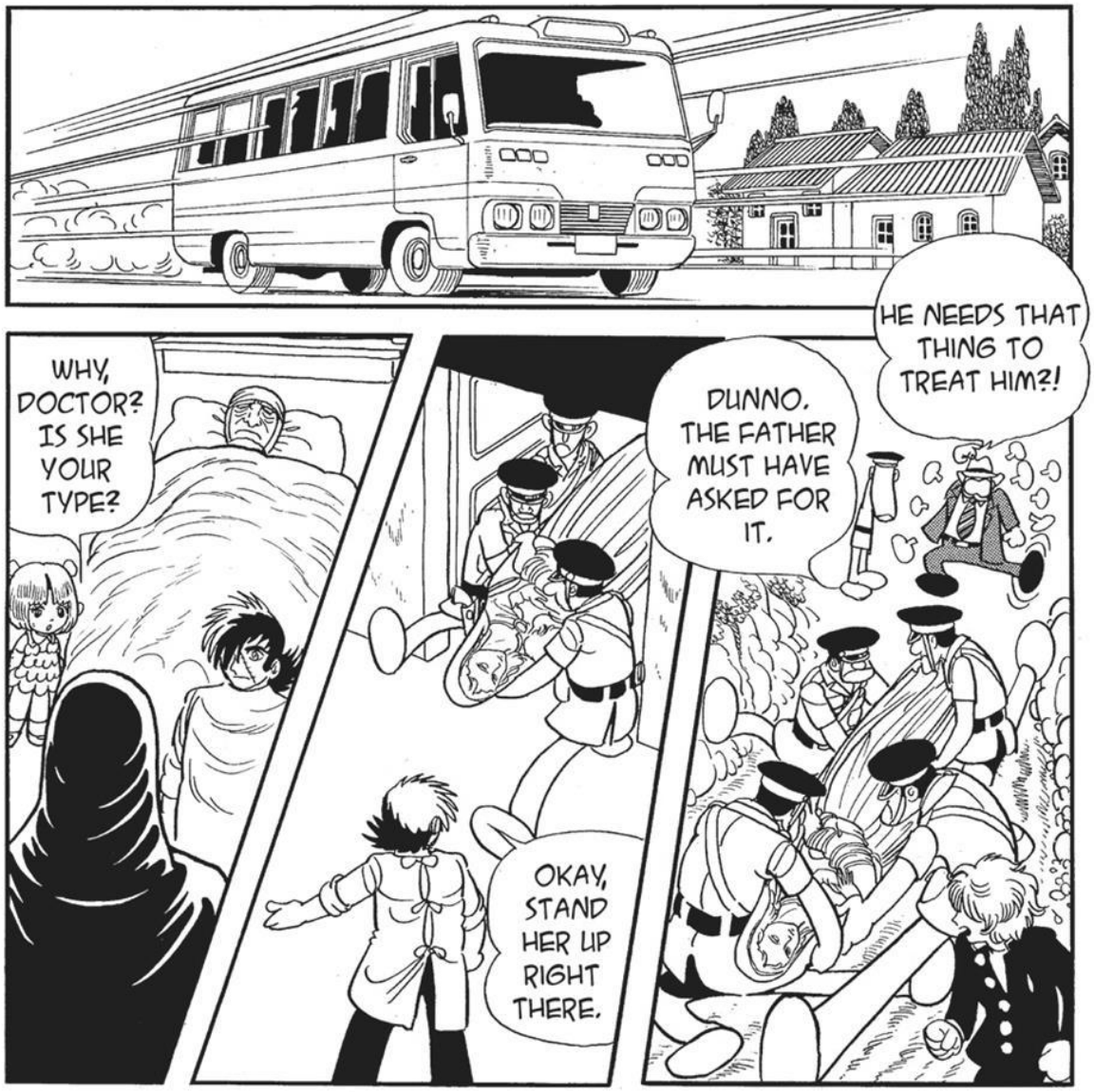
HUWWY!
IT SHTOP-PED!
DAMMIT! NORADREN-ALINE DRIP!
BE CARE-FUL!
DOCTOR, HIS HEAWT IS WEAKENING.
LIVE! BEAT, NOW! BEAT!!
RUB
RUB
AND APPLY DIRECT HEART MASSAGE.
I'LL OPEN HIM UP
IT'S BEAT-ING!
CRAP!
LIVE!!
BEAT, I SAID!
THIS IS TAKING ALL I HAVE.
IT'S WARE THAT YOU NEED A BWEAK ...
MY HANDS FEEL LIKE COTTON. I'LL CLOSE HIM UP AND REST.
PHEW...

IT WON'T HAPPEN AGAIN, BY MY PRIDE!
WHEN I OPERATED ON MY OWN SAVIOR DR. HONMA, I LET HIM DIE.
NO, WE RE-SUME!
DOCTOR, YOU NEED MORE WESHT...
I HAVE TO SEE HIS HANDS AT WORK IF ONLY ONCE.
THIS MAN WOULD LAUGH AT ME. I CAN'T LOSE!
HOLY!!
I, UH... I'M FINE...
DOCTOR, ARE YOU OKAY?
THAT'S IT, THEN...
H-HOW DID I MISS THAT?
TWO FINGERS SHORN OFF!

WHAT, FOR A TAXI RIDE?
GIMME 1,000 PESETAS OUT OF THIS, BOSS.
I INFORMED THE POLICE THAT THE FATHER LIVES HERE, BUT THOSE STINGY BASTARDS AREN'T PAYING ME.
PRIZE FOR WHAT?
UH-UH, IT'S THE PRIZE MONEY I WAS PROMISED.
TAKE PITY ON ME AND DISH OUT THE PRIZE MONEY FROM THIS.
YOU RAKED IT IN THIS TIME, BOSS.
YOU INFORMED ON HIM?
FATHER FATHNA TILL HE CAN NEVER STAND AGAIN.
IF YOU WON'T SEE IT MY WAY
I'LL BEAT UP
ALL I'M ASKING FOR IS 1,000 PESETAS' WORTH OUT OF 500,000 DOLLARS. THAT'S NOTHING, EH?
YOU RAT!

SMACK
ARGH
I'LL SAY IT ONLY ONCE. YOU HAVE FIVE SECONDS TO GET LOST!
BROUGHT GRIEF TO FATHER FATHNA.
HE WAS THE ONE WHO
ドタリ
THUD
WHAT WAS THAT NOIJE?

A RAT LIKE HIM DESERVES WORSE.
DON'T FEED HIM. IF HE STIRS, INJECT ANOTHER DOSE OF SOPORIFIC.
PUT HIM IN THE CELLAR.
I HAVE AN ODD FAVOR TO ASK, KENPEI.
I-I'M... STILL ALIVE!!
SOMEHOW, YES.
NOT ALONE, OF COURSE. ASK THE COPS OUT THERE TO HELP YOU.
WHAT?
GO TO THE CHURCH AND BRING THAT STATUE OF MARY TO THIS HOUSE.
THERE ARE NO ATHEISTS IN FOXHOLES, HEHEH!
THE FATHER PRAYED TO IT AND SAVED YOU, DIDN'T HE?
I NEED SOME OF THAT.
WHY?!
B-BUT


WHY, DOCTOR? IS SHE YOUR TYPE?
OKAY, STAND HER UP RIGHT THERE.
DUNNO. THE FATHER MUST HAVE ASKED FOR IT.
HE NEEDS THAT THING TO TREAT HIM?!

YOU'LL SEE.
WELL, NOT EXACTLY.

ARE YOU DOING THIS TO GIVE ME STRENGTH?

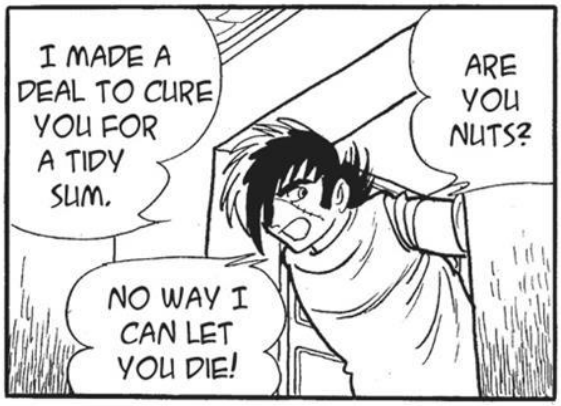
YOU HAVE TO RECOVER, FATHER!
DO ME A FAVOR... LET ME DIE.
I PREFER TO DIE HERE.
NO... EVEN IF I DO, THEY'LL EXECUTE ME IN THE END.
HOW MANY TIMES MUST I TELL YOU? THAT WAS NOT MY DOING, BUT GOD ALMIGHTY'S.
I'M DEAD CERTAIN YOU'LL RE-COVER, JUST LIKE YOU HEALED KENPEI 20 YEARS AGO.
I PUT ALL MY MIGHT INTO THAT SURGERY.
SPARE ME THAT NONSENSE! IT WAS YOUR TALENT.
IT WAS YOUR SKILL!

ALAS, WE'LL NEVER BE ABLE TO CONFIRM NOW.
YOU DO. THAT OP YOU DID WAS THE BEST EVER...
YET IT WAS NOT SO. I SIMPLY DO NOT POSSESS THE SKILL!
IT'S BEEN A MONTH.
YOU'RE LOOKING GOOD, FATHER!
CAN WE TAKE HIM INTO CUSTODY? IT'S ABOUT TIME.
AT FIRST SIGHT, MAYBE.
WE CAN'T WAIT THAT LONG!
ABSOLUTELY NOT. IT'LL TAKE HIM HALF A YEAR TO REHABILITATE.
...
THIS WAS COMING.
PREPARE TO HAVE HIM TRANSFERRED TO THE POLICE HOSPITAL.

I BEG YOU TO LET ME DIE HERE, DURING AN OPERATION.

ONCE I'M IN THEIR HANDS, THE THREATS AND TORTURE WILL BEGIN. THE FEROCITY OF IT IS NOT SOMETHING EVEN I CAN BEAR.

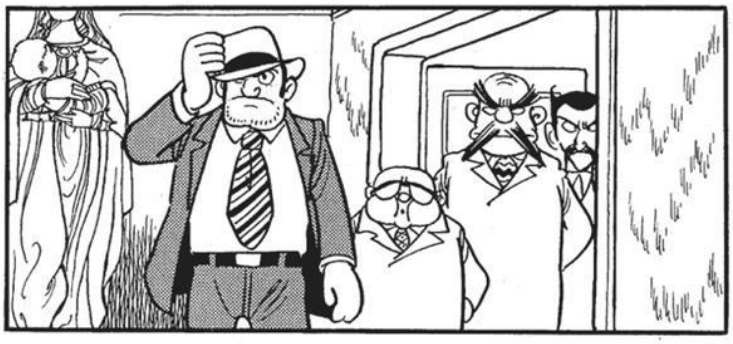
LORD GOD... GIVE ME THE COURAGE.

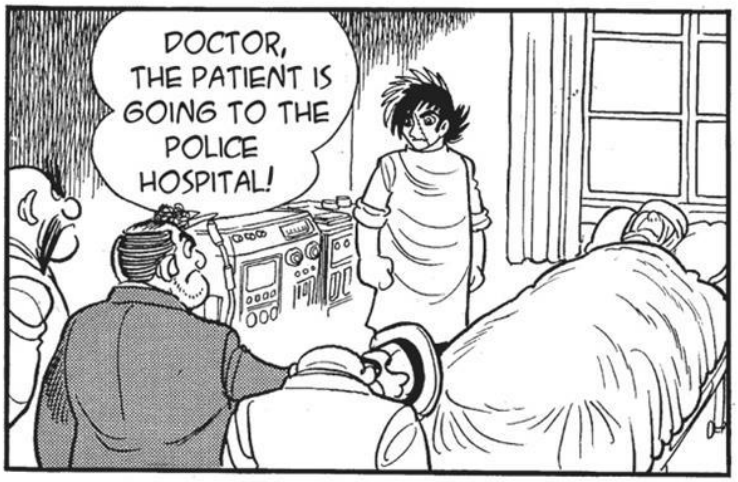

I MADE A DEAL TO CURE YOU FOR A TIDY SUM.
ARE YOU NUTS?
NO WAY I CAN LET YOU DIE!

LET'S DO THIS NOW.
MMMR
ZZZZ
YOU'VE LOST WEIGHT.
WE DON'T HAVE MUCH TIME.
NO WONDER, YOU'VE SLEPT FOR 20 DAYS, DRIVER.

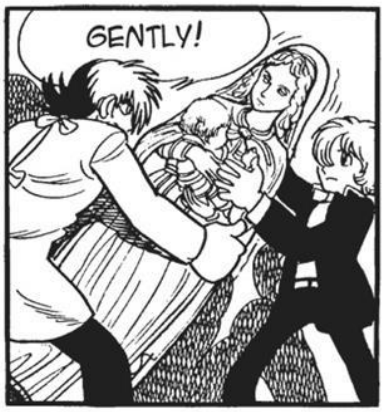
JUST A LITTLE COSMETIC SURGERY.

WHAT ARE YOU UP TO?
ACCHON BURIKE

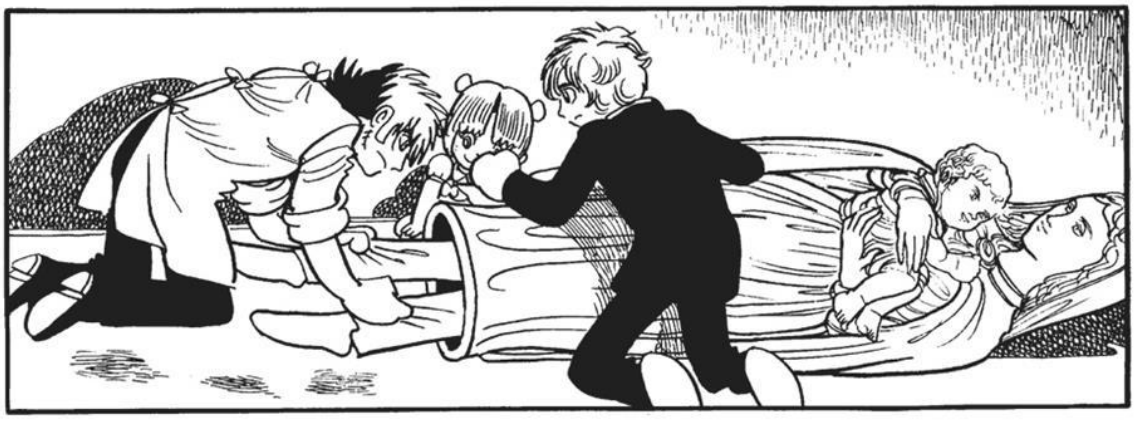



DOCTOR, THE PATIENT IS GOING TO THE POLICE HOSPITAL!

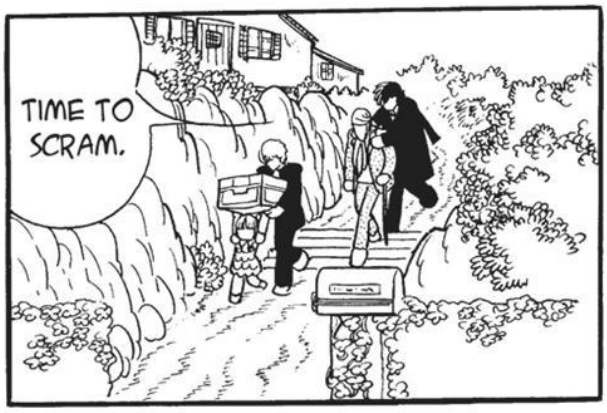
DON'T TOUCH MY PATIENT! YOU GAVE YOUR WORD!
TAKE HIM AWAY.
THE ORDER IS FROM THE TOP.
GET OUT OF HERE!
YOU BIG FAT LIAR! Y-YOU TRICKED ME!
TAKE IT UP WITH THE COMMISH.
WE'LL TAKE IT FROM HERE. IF YOU DON'T LIKE THAT,
YUP, THEY'RE GONE!
THEY'RE GONE?

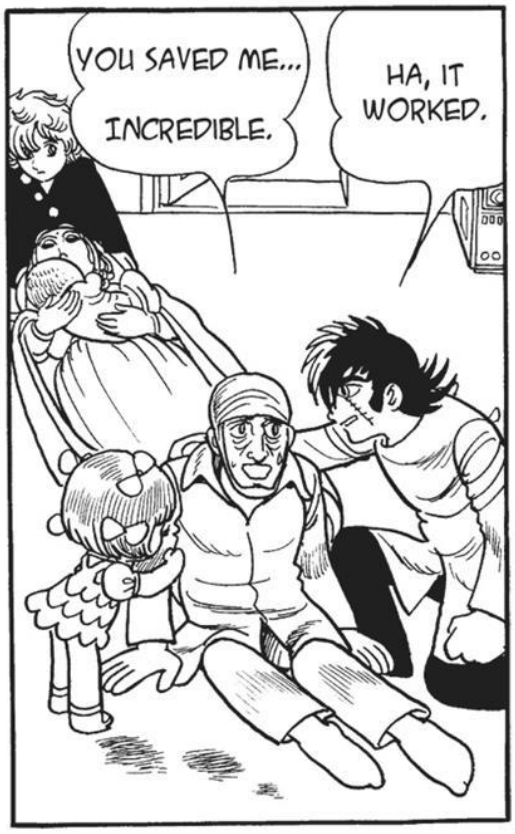

GENTLY!

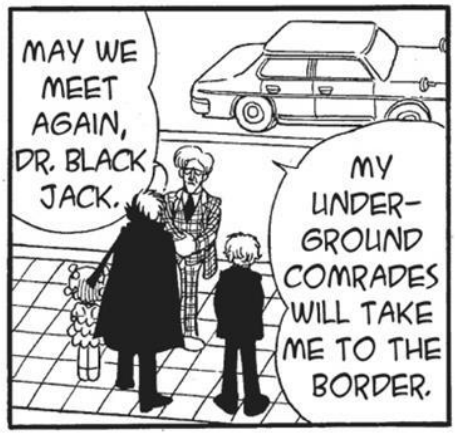
PITY THE TRAI-TOR ...



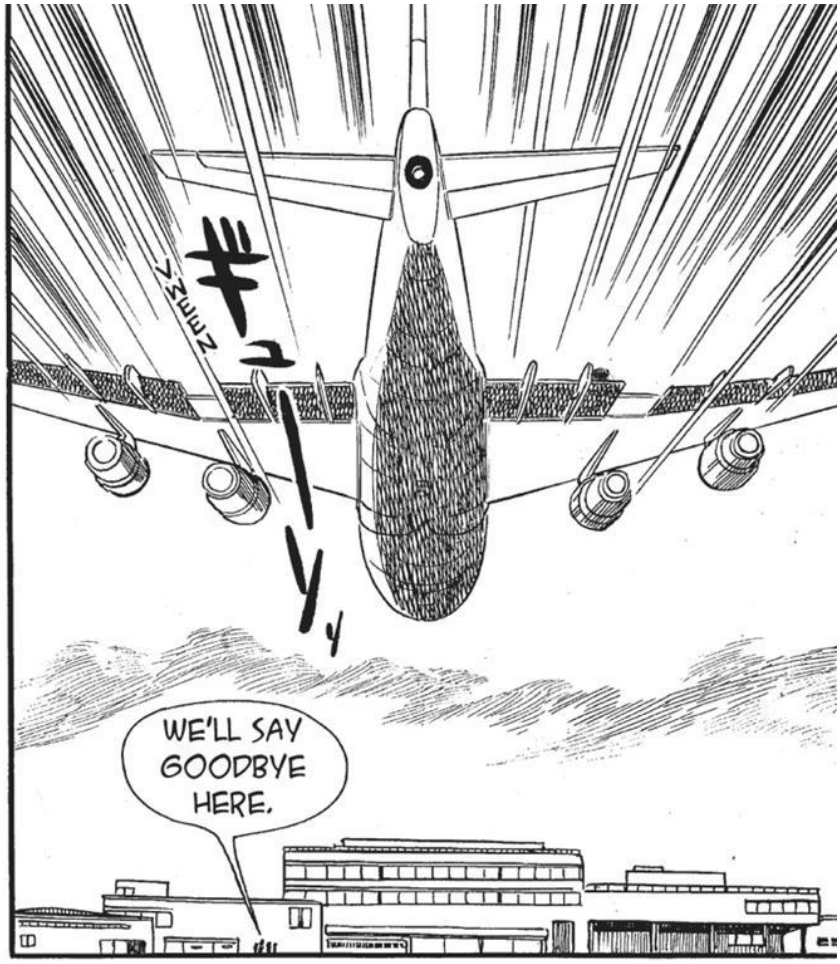
THANK YOU, O LORD...


TIME TO SCRAM.


YOU SAVED ME...
INCREDIBLE.
HA, IT WORKED.

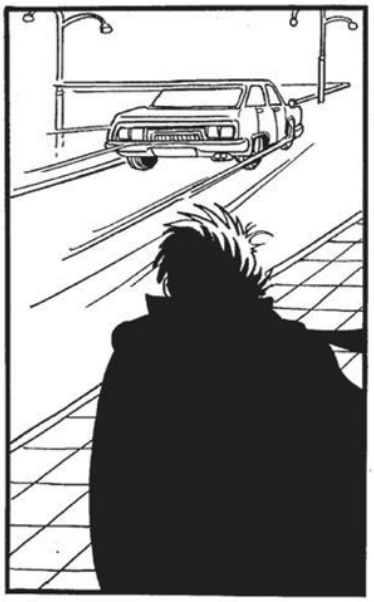

MAY WE MEET AGAIN, DR. BLACK JACK.
MY UNDER-GROUND COMRADES WILL TAKE ME TO THE BORDER.

I DOUBT THAT WE EVER WILL.
HM? WHY NOT?

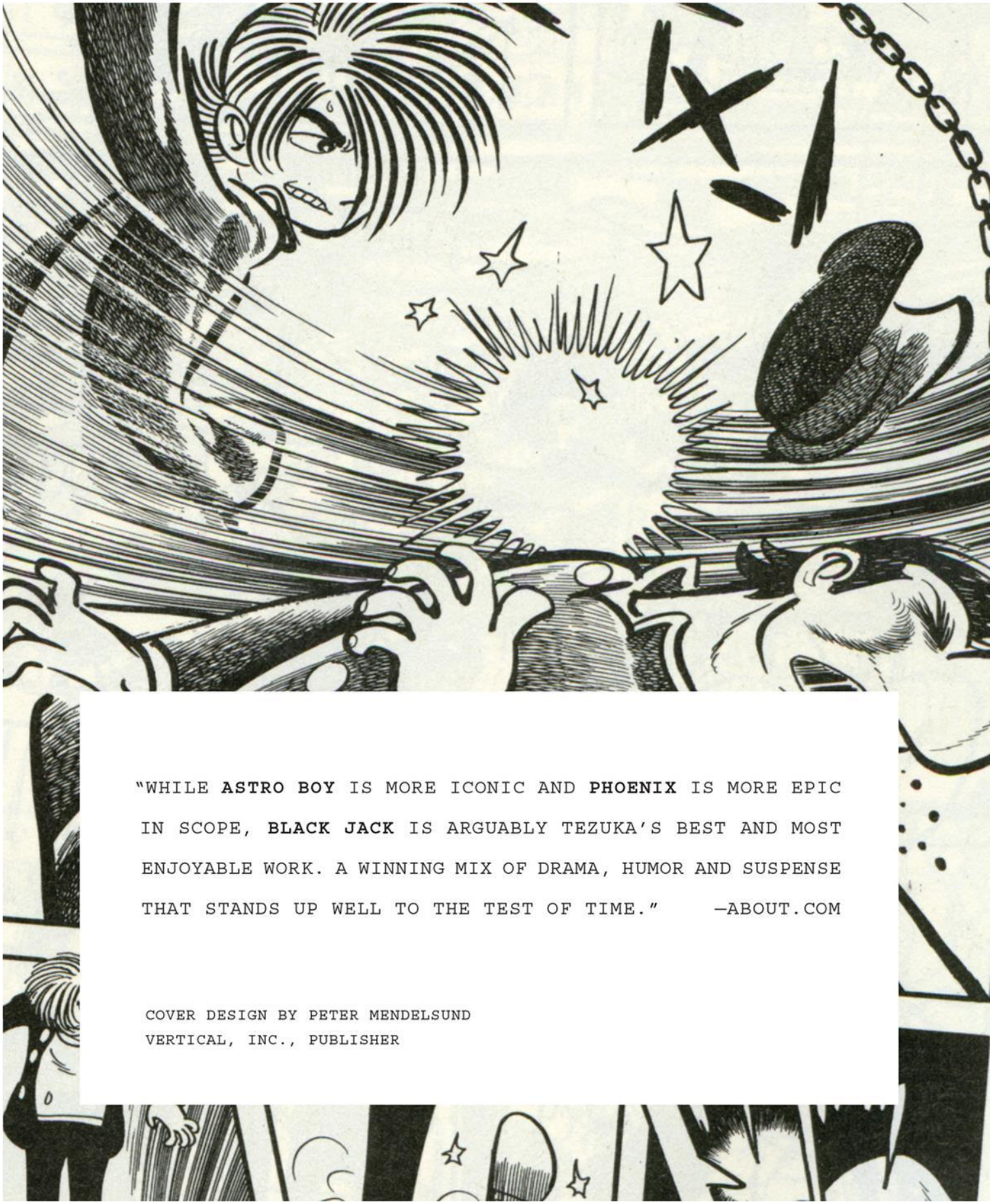

ZMMZ
WE'LL SAY GOODBYE HERE.

DOCTOR WANTS A FWIEND— SHOMEONE WHO CAN OPEWATE LIKE HIM.
WHY DOES HE LOOK SO SAD?
BUT YOU SHEE, HE'S ALL ALONE.

...



// A PEERLESS MEDICAL DRAMA //



"WHILE **ASTRO BOY** IS MORE ICONIC AND **PHOENIX** IS MORE EPIC IN SCOPE, **BLACK JACK** IS ARGUABLY TEZUKA'S BEST AND MOST ENJOYABLE WORK. A WINNING MIX OF DRAMA, HUMOR AND SUSPENSE THAT STANDS UP WELL TO THE TEST OF TIME." —ABOUT.COM

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